



BADGER STATE

SMOKE SIGNALS

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 29th Year

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Six Special Event Stations to observe Wisconsin Sesquicentennial

Six special event station operations will be operating on various dates in observance of our state's 150th birthday. The information given may still not be complete.



W9B - Belmont

Dates: May 29-31, 1998
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. daily
Bands: Lower 25 kHz of general bands and 2 meters
Modes: CW, Phone and Packet
Site: First Wisconsin capitol grounds. The first capitol, in southern Lafayette County, was the state's territorial capitol, then became the first state capitol in May, 1848.
Certificate and QSL information: 9 x 12 SASE, Business size SASE, or send a dollar and we will provide envelope and postage. Send to HVARC, P.O. 112, Platteville, WI 53818-0112.
Sponsor: Hidden Valley Radio Club of South Western Wisconsin.
Note: Operators are needed and welcome. This is a good opportunity for Tech class operators to work on the high frequency bands. For operator sign up and additional information contact Jack Izzard kf9tn@mhtc.net or Art Evans aevans@mhtc.net

W9I - Green Bay

Dates: May 22-30.
Times: Various on weekdays, 1600 UTC - 0400 UTC on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
Bands: Lower 25 kHz of general bands, 28.390, national calling freqs on 2M (FM and SSB), 6M, and 70 cm.
Modes: Phone and CW.
Certificate information: 9 x 12 SASE, business size SASE, or send a dollar and we will provide envelope and postage. Send to KS9WI, Keith Summers 918 Bluebird St., De Pere, WI 54115.
Sponsor: Green Bay Mike and Key Club.

W9S - Madison

Dates: May 2 through May 10; 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Space Place on the UW-Madison campus. Red Cross will be the secondary site, with operation times of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wisconsin Emergency Management will, also, have a limited operation schedule.
Bands: 25 kHz above lower edge of General subband on HF. 10 meters: 28.325. 2 meter FM: 146.55; 51.25 and 144.200 SSB.
Modes: All modes: voice, CW, packet, APRS.
Note: All operator classes welcome to operate as guests from around the State. Operator sign up website: <http://www.globaldialog.com/kb9rrm> and keep up with the news at the FLARC website:

<http://members.aol.com/staskc2ak>
Sponsor: Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club, Don Michalski, W9IXG, chairman.
Certificate or QSL: Certificate, \$1.00 to UW Space Place, 1605 South Park Street, Madison, WI 53715. QSL, SASE to same address.

W9W - 45/90 Marker near Wausau

Date and time: Statehood Day, Friday May 29th, 6:00 p.m. until Saturday, May 30th 6:00 p.m. (May 30 0000Z - 2400Z). Operation will be at the 45/90 marker, which is also the corner of four grid squares, 44, 45, 54 and 55. (This is where the 90th meridian and the 45th parallel intersect.)
Bands and Mode: SSB: 14.275, 21.325, 28.475, 51.25 and 144.200.
Certificate: SASE to Wisconsin Valley Radio Association, P.O. Box 363, Wausau WI 54402-0363.

W9A - Adams County

Date: June 20, 1998
Time: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Bands: 40, 15 and 2 meters: 21.325 +/-, 7.230 +/- and 146.52 (calling frequency -- will shift to a nearby simplex frequency if necessary). W9A will commemorate the Adams County, Wisconsin, Sesquicentennial. Adams County is the only sesquicentennial county in the state.
Sponsor: Pinery Road ARC
Certificate: Send 9x12 SASE to Pinery Road ARC, 950 East Trout Valley Road, Friendship, WI 539349672. There will be a special Adams County cancellation by the Friendship Post Office on Sunday, July 5. To get special cancellation, requests for certificates must be received no later than July 3. Call 608-564-7887 or e-mail kratzham@maqs.net for additional information.

W9W - Oshkosh

Dates: July 1 - 5, 1998.
Times: 1700 UTC to 0200 UTC
Bands: General portions of 10, 15, 20, and 40 meters.
Modes: SSB and CW.
Certificate: 9 x 12 SASE to: Mark Miller, N9WT, 336 W. 8th Avenue, Oshkosh WI 54901-5928.
Sponsors: Radio Amateurs of Wisconsin and Oshkosh Sawdust Days Board.



AB 680, AB 754 still there, but..

Two Assembly bills, named in the headline, and which could have had possible undesirable impacts on mobile use of Amateur Radio, are still parked in the Committee on Commerce and Transportation.

We incorrectly understood that the current session of the Wisconsin Legislature would adjourn by now. It has not. It does adjourn at the end of April.

According to Assemblyperson Joan Wade Spillner, who spoke with the Chair of the Committee on Commerce and Transportation, neither bill will be permitted to be voted out for floor action. And, since there are no bills in the Senate regarding the same issue, there remains no chance

that either will go anywhere but into the Assembly's round file at session's end.

Rep. Baumgart, a co-author of AB 754, has told BSSS that he will be introducing another bill in the next session. He did indicate that he is open to suggestions for different wording or structuring of any bill he might introduce.

We also learned that many of the members of both houses do use their cellular telephones while driving. And, given what certainly will be a major onslaught of lobbying by cell and PCS providers, any bill limiting the use of either service would likely have a very rough road to travel in either chamber.

Oak Creek and the Bandit

Verne Teske, W9RYA, Oak Creek, after hamming for 51 years, has become something of a legend in Wisconsin ham radio. Here's some info behind the legend.

First licensed in 1947, Verne is an active member of the ARRL, the QCWA, the South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club, and the Ozaukee Radio Club. And that's just a few. He also served twelve years as an advisor for a Boy Scout Explorer troop.

Verne and Ron Yokes, W9BCK, founded two clubs: the Ozaukee Radio Club and the South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club.

The SMARC is one of three Wisconsin ham clubs which fund scholarships for young people wishing to attend college. And, SMARC recently donated Amateur Radio books to five Oak Creek-area libraries, at a total cost to the club of \$900.00. Add to that another recent donation: \$500.00 to the Oak Creek Fire Department for upkeep on a special trailer with a house on it that simulates a burning house; this is used by the fire department to demonstrate how to escape a fire.

Verne serves as State Government Liaison, a section-level ARRL appointment. He has constructed a scale model of a typical Amateur Radio tower installation which illustrates the advantages of tower and antenna heights with respect to noise and



Verne Teske, W9RYA

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Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901 • kebnetter@palacenet.net

Swapfests and Other Social Events

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, APRIL 3 & 4, 1998.
Amateur Electronic Supply Superfest. Contact: Ray
Grenier, K9KHW, (414) 358-4088, rayk9khw@aol.com

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 1998. Madison Swapfest.
NEW LOCATION - John Q Hammons Trade Center.
Lower Prices, Free parking, doors open at 8:00 a.m.
Contact: MARA, PO Box 8890, Madison, WI 53708-8890.
(608) 245-8890. (NEW LOCATION -- See ad with map
elsewhere this issue.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1998. 21st Rochester
Minnesota Hamfest, Graham Arena East, Olmsted County
Fairgrounds, Rochester MN. Contact: N0HZN, 4552 5th
St. NW, Rochester, MN 55901. (507) 285- 6522. e-mail
n0hzn@aol.com. Also on the web at
http://members.aol.com/rarchams.

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1998. Twentieth Annual
Cedarburg Swapfest. Held at the Circle-B Recreation
Center, Highway 60 and County I (located 20 miles north of
Milwaukee, west of Grafton. Contact: Ozaukee Radio
Club, W58 N985 Essex Drive. Cedarburg. WI 53012-
1439. (414) 377-2784 or (414) 284-3271.

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1998. Lakeshore Hamfest and
Computer Swapfest. Manitowoc County Expo, intersection
of Hwys 42-151 and I-43 on Cty. Hwy. R. Manitowoc, WI.
Contact: ManCoRad Radio Club, P.O. Box, 204,
Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204. Glen. AA9BT (920) 684-
7096 or Red, N9GHE, (920) 684-9097.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 1998, 21st annual Central
Wisconsin Radio Amateurs Swapfest and Auction, U.S.
Army Reserve Center, Junction City, WI. Contact: John
Feltz, W9JN, 973 E First St., Junction City, WI 54443-
9614. (715) 457-2506. e-mail jfw9jn@tznnet.com

SATURDAY JULY 11, 1998. Eau Claire ARC 15th
annual Hamfest & Computer Expo., Eau Claire County

Exposition Center, Eau Claire WI. Doors open at 8:00 a.m.
Advance setup available. VE exams. Contact: Jim Staatz.
WB9RBP, (715) 838-9108 wb9rbp@aol.com or Carol
Ceraso, N9UTA, (715) 723-9205 ceraz@execpc.com
ECARC, PO Box 1867, Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867.

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 1998. South Milwaukee
Amateur Radio Club Swapfest, American Legion Park,
Shepard Avenue, South Milwaukee, WI. Contact South
Milwaukee ARC, P.O. Box 102, South Milwaukee, WI
53172. (414) 762-3235.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 1998. The Marshfield Area
Radio Society will be holding their 7th annual picnic in the
park, Hamnic potluck dinner and swapfest at Wildwood
Park. Gather around 11:00 a.m. Bring a dish to pass.
Contact: Christopher Strong, KB9NMH OR Guy Boucher,
107 West Third Street, Marshfield WI 54449. (715) 384-
4323. Via packet radio to
KF9XXX@W9IHW.E5.AI.WI.USA.NA or e-mail
guyboucher@tznnet.com

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1998. Circus City
Swapfest, Sauk County Fairgrounds, Baraboo WI.
Contact: Steve Schulze, N9UDO, (608) 356-2313/356-
4777 or Bill Klinkner, N9KXX, (608) 643-6908/643-
6453. http://www.thelorax.com/~ssschulze/hamfest.htm

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 & 20,
1998. Peoria Area ARC SUPERFEST, Exposition
Gardens, Peoria IL. Contact: Superfest '98, P.O. Box
3508, Peoria IL 61616-3508.

See also the back page and flyer ads for additional
information on many of these events.

Let us know of your dates as soon as you know them.
We will list them and perhaps help avoid conflicts with
other events.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger
State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your
upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or
other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and
nearby areas. Send information on your event to Kenneth
A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901.
In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our
advertising pages. For information on rates and

requirements for our advertising pages, please contact
K9ZZ or K9EN.



CLUB MEETINGS

Due to space limitations, we cannot always carry the
full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please see
the March 1998 meetings column for the latest complete
listing. No changes have been reported to BSSS since that
listing.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations
and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

April 04, 1998	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
April 04, 1998	Racine, WI
April 04, 1998	St. Paul, MN
April 09, 1998	Apple Valley, MN
April 11, 1998	Blaine, MN
April 11, 1998	Eau Claire, WI
April 11, 1998	Madison, WI
April 11, 1998	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
April 13, 1998	Libertyville, IL
April 18, 1998	Cottage Grove, MN
April 18, 1998	Loves Park, IL
April 18, 1998	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
April 18, 1998	Mount Pleasant, IA
April 21, 1998	Eden Prairie, MN
April 25, 1998	Madford, WI
April 25, 1998	Bloomington, MN
April 25, 1998	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
April 25, 1998	Tomahawk, WI
May 02, 1998	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
May 02, 1998	Racine, WI
May 02, 1998	St. Paul, MN
May 09, 1998	Blaine, MN
May 09, 1998	Madison, WI
May 09, 1998	Manitowoc, WI
May 09, 1998	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
May 09, 1998	Onalaska, WI
May 14, 1998	Apple Valley, MN
May 16, 1997	Redgranite, WI
May 16, 1998	Cottage Grove, MN
May 16, 1998	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
May 16, 1998	Sheboygan, WI
May 16, 1998	Loves Park, IL
May 19, 1998	Eden Prairie, MN
May 23, 1998	Bloomington, MN
May 30, 1998	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
May 30, 1998	Tomahawk, WI
June 06, 1998	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
June 06, 1998	Racine, WI
June 06, 1998	St. Paul, MN
June 07, 1998	Stevens Point, WI
June 11, 1998	Apple Valley, MN
June 13, 1998	Blaine, MN
June 13, 1998	Madison, WI
June 13, 1998	Marshfield, WI
June 13, 1998	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
June 16, 1998	Eden Prairie, MN
June 20, 1998	Cottage Grove, MN
June 20, 1998	Loves Park, IL
June 20, 1998	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
June 27, 1998	Bloomington, MN
June 27, 1998	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
June 27, 1998	Tomahawk, WI
July 04, 1998	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
July 04, 1998	St. Paul, MN
July 09, 1998	Apple Valley, MN
July 11, 1998	Blaine, MN
July 11, 1998	Madison, WI

Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio
Education and Information

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EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Dave Knaus, WA9POV; Don
Evenson, K9JYX; Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ.

Subscriptions

1 year	(12 issues)	\$13.95
2 years	(24 issues - save \$1.95)	\$25.95
3 years	(36 issues - save \$3.90)	\$37.95

Subscription form is on page 5. Special club package reduced rates
are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the
next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue
is May 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Par-
ticipating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE
DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the
4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than

the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.
Editorial material, photographs, feature articles, display ads, and
exchange papers should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.
Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to
Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Jim Romelfanger NO
LATER THAN EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT'S DATE.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to
Ken Ebnetter.

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Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on
radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*,
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Badger State Smoke Signals is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock,
non-for-profit organization.

Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles,
and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do
not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger
State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

July 11, 1998 Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
 July 15, 1998 Sheboygan, WI
 July 18, 1998 Cottage Grove, MN
 July 18, 1998 Loves Park, IL
 July 18, 1998 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 July 21, 1998 Eden Prairie, MN
 July 25, 1998 Bloomington, MN
 July 25, 1998 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 July 25, 1998 Tomahawk, WI
 August 01, 1998 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
 August 01, 1998 St. Paul, MN
 August 08, 1998 Blaine, MN
 August 08, 1998 Madison, WI
 August 08, 1998 Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
 August 13, 1998 Apple Valley, MN
 August 15, 1998 Cottage Grove, MN
 August 15, 1998 Loves Park, IL
 August 15, 1998 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 August 15, 1998 Redgranite, WI
 August 18, 1998 Eden Prairie, MN
 August 22, 1998 Bloomington, MN
 August 29, 1998 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 August 29, 1998 Tomahawk, WI
 September 05, 1998 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
 September 05, 1998 Racine, WI
 September 05, 1998 St. Paul, MN
 September 10, 1998 Apple Valley, MN
 September 12, 1998 Blaine, MN
 September 12, 1998 Madison, WI
 September 12, 1998 Marshfield, WI
 September 12, 1998 Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
 September 12, 1998 Onalaska, WI
 September 12, 1998 Sheboygan, WI
 September 15, 1998 Eden Prairie, MN
 September 19, 1998 Appleton, WI
 September 19, 1998 Cottage Grove, MN
 September 19, 1998 Loves Park, IL
 September 19, 1998 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 September 26, 1998 Bloomington, MN
 September 26, 1998 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 September 26, 1998 Tomahawk, WI
 October 17, 1998 Redgranite, WI
 November 01, 1998 Kaukauna, WI
 November 07, 1998 Menomonie, WI
 November 07, 1998 Onalaska, WI
 November 18, 1998 Sheboygan, WI
 December 19, 1998 Redgranite, WI
 January 23, 1999 Appleton, WI
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Racine, WI
 (except January, July & August)
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Oshkosh (Omro), WI
 Monthly, 1st Sat. St. Paul, MN
 Monthly, 2nd Thu. Apple Valley, MN
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Madison, WI
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Blaine, MN
 Monthly, 3rd Tue. Eden Prairie, MN
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Loves Park, IL
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Cottage Grove, MN
 Monthly, 4th Sat. Bloomington, MN
 Monthly, Last Sat. Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 (except December)
 Monthly, Last Sat. Tomahawk, WI
 (January thru October only)
 Quarterly Marshfield, WI
 (Second Saturday every third month.)
 Quarterly Eau Claire, WI
 (Second Saturday Jan., Apr., & Oct.)
 plus annual summer hamfest.)

Many Swapfests/Hamfests offer exam sessions. If not shown above contact the sponsoring club in the Swapfest column on page 2.

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Some examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL. Send a 32c/ SASE if you request one from the ARRL. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$6.35 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE or CSCE to the VEC. You must also have two good copies of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 610 and most VEC want a copy for their records. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing

before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrivec/examsearch.phtml>

By checking this page, a person can find out registered VE sessions anywhere in US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC, it is a master database. (Thanks to KB9EQI for information.)

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB (MRAC/VEC)

SECOND SATURDAY - OAK CREEK, WI
LAST SATURDAY - MILWAUKEE, WI

SECOND SATURDAY DATE: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Wauwatosa Savings Bank, 6560 S. 27th St., Oak Creek, WI.

LAST SATURDAY DATES: (except December): 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Rd., Milwaukee, WI. Note: For Additional Information: Call (414) 466-HAMS (Answering Machine).

Bring along your ORIGINAL license, CSCE (if any) and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$6.35 for the exam fee. WALK-INS are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number. Send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, PO Box 25707, Milwaukee, WI 53225.

BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Badger Examiners group now testing at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 6th and Good Hope, every third Saturday MORNING. Exam times are not 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at the old Sterman Printing ship, just 300 feet west of the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided, fee is \$6.35, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed. Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, Etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, WI9M at (414) 355-0237.

MADISON, WI

VE exams are held in Madison every second Saturday morning of the month at 8 a.m. They are held at the operations building of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District at 1610 Moorland Rd. To get there take the Beltline (Hwy 12 & 18) to South Towne Drive. Go south 8/10 mile till South Towne Drive makes a bend and becomes Moorland Rd. and enter at gate.

You should bring a picture ID, your original licence and a copy of your licence. For exams beyond the novice tests, bring a check for \$6.35, made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special 610 form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me at (608) 832-6631.

Mark Jenks, NZ9B

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August.

Monthly exams are given 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted.

Talk in on 147.87/.27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert N. Jensen, W0WLN, 5616 Cambridge lane #6, Racine, WI. Telephone (414) 886-8551.

TOMAHAWK, WI

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct.

Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No preregistration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testings starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633.

APPLETON, WI - ARRL/VEC MANITOWOC, WI (HAMFEST) KAUKAUNA, WI (HAMFEST)

Conducted by the Fox Cities ARC VE team. All test sessions in Appleton are held at James Madison Jr. High, 2020 S. Carpenter Street. Testing starting at 8 a.m. For Appleton information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. For Manitowoc or Kaukauna information, contact Larry Siebers, KD9IA (920) 759-1167.

STEVENS POINT, WI (ARRL/VE) CWRA SWAPFEST

Contact Joe Larson, N9JW evenings at (715) 344-1182.

PEWAUKEE, WI

Kettle Moraine Exam Team. Held at the Pewaukee WCTC Campus Science Building, Room S101. 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Contact Al Johnson, AA7CS. (414) 568-0836. 103357.3222@COMPUSERV.COM

OSHKOSH (OMRO)

The Oshkosh VE Team will administer Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon at the Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walk-ins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.35. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

EAU CLAIRE

The Eau Claire ARC will hold exam sessions on the second Saturday in the months of January, April, and October, as well as on the date of their annual hamfest during the summer. For further information contact: Carl F. Searing, W9NW, 1129 Mc Kinley Road, Eau Claire, WI 54703-2219. (715) 834-1303.

REDGRANITE, WI (W5YI/VEC)

The Radio Amateurs of Wisconsin (RAW) will be holding test sessions at the Civic Center in Redgranite, 202 Pine River Road, one block from Highway 21. Turn north by Mosier's Sporting GoodsR store. Registration at 9:00 a.m. Bring two forms of identification, \$6.35 per test, two copies of all original documents, CSCE's, Licenses, etc. along with original documents. For further information, contact: Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231-1662 or Mike O'Connor, K9II (920) 231-7093.

WISCONSIN DELLS, WI

Wisconsin Dells City Hall, City Council Chambers. 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Contact: K9WD, (608) 254-2895.

HUDSON, WI

Testing is held at the St. Croix County emergency government Center on Carmichael road in Hudson, WI. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and testing begins promptly at 9:00 a.m. Contact: Greg Miller, KB9JHL, 503 4th St., Hudson, WI 54016. (715) 386-9857.

MARSHFIELD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsored by the Marshfield Area ARS. Held at St. Joseph Hospital, 611 St. Joseph Ave., in the 1 West classroom located adjacent to the Westwood Cafeteria on the main floor of the hospital. Use the main entrance or any other entrance and follow the signs to the cafeteria. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. with testing starting at 9:00 a.m. Talk in on the 147.18 Marshfield repeater. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Walter Friant, WB0KIN, 2310 Wallonie Drive, Marshfield, WI 54449 (715) 387-3870.

SHEBOYGAN, WI

Wednesday dates: Registration 1830 hrs, testing 1900 hrs.

Saturday dates: Registration 0830 hrs, testing 0900 hrs.

Testing site is: Red Cross/Boy Scout Office Building (lower level), 2032 Erie Ave., Sheboygan, WI.

Test site has limited handicap accessibility. Walk-ins are OK but preregistration would be appreciated. Test fee is \$6.35. Make checks payable to SCARC VE Testing. All class tests administered. Contact: Art Pahr, K9XJ, (920) 876-2370. e-mail <k9xj@excel.net>

ONALASKA, WI (ARRL/VEC)

The Riverland Amateur Radio Club will hold test sessions at the Onalaska Public Library, 741 Oak Avenue South. registration begins at 9:0 a.m. with testing at 9:15 a.m. Please bring two forms of identification and two copies of all original documents, CSCEs, license, etc. For more information contact: Roger Reader, KA9BKK, 526 13th Ave. N., Onalaska, WI 54650. (608) 783-0732.

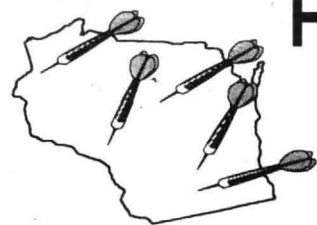
MEDFORD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Taylor County Area AREC. Registration starts 8:30 a.m., testing starts 9:00 a.m. Location: The conference room in the lower level of the Sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Take Ogden St. west off of Hwy. 13 to the courthouse. Park in the lots on the east or south sides of the courthouse or on the street. PLEASE use the entrance on the south side of the courthouse and watch of the signs. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, 2373 Willow Ave., Medford, WI 54451. (715) 748-4054

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL (ARRL/VEC) Contact: Frank Stankiewicz, (847) 437-1464.

CEDARBURG, WI - ORC HAMFEST EAU CLAIRE, WI - ECARC HAMFEST GREEN BAY, WI - ARES HAMFEST

(continued on page 15)



HERE and THERE

Some major changes for Field Day!

Some new rules go into effect this year for Field Day. The popular summertime operating event takes place each year on the fourth full weekend in June. This year, it will be June 27-28.

A major change this year is the elimination of bonus-point credit for packet and VHF/UHF contacts. Field Day stations no longer will be allowed to count contacts via digipeaters, packet nodes, or similar arrangements. Class 2A and higher Field Day stations still may operate a "free" transmitter exclusively for VHF or UHF operation (ie, above 50 MHz) without changing their basic entry classification, but not for bonus points. "It's better than bonus points, and groups are likely to spend more time on VHF and UHF because of that," predicted ARRL Membership Services Manager Chuck Hutchinson, K8CH. As in the past, crossband and repeater contacts other than via satellite do not count for Field Day credit.

Field Day stations now can earn point credit for digital (ie, non-CW) contacts on each band. The phone, CW, and non-CW digital segments are considered separate "bands" in the Field Day rules. This means, for example, that you now may work the same station for point credit on 40 meters three times: once on SSB, once

modes. SSB contacts count one point, and CW and non-CW digital contacts count 2 points apiece, so adding non-CW digital capability presents a real opportunity to rack up substantial additional points! "We're expecting an interesting year because of the digital modes," Hutchinson said.

The complete, official Field Day rules will appear in the May edition of *QST*. Basic Field Day rules have remained unchanged for several years now. The new rules undoubtedly will generate a flurry of computerized contest logging program revisions as developers scramble to incorporate the changes into their software.

The ARRL Letter, 3/20/98

Youngest hams in the US?

At a time when older hams bemoan the dearth of youthful licensees in the hobby's ranks, along come Samuel Lewis, KB9RYP, and Sarah Bruno, KB9SEG, both Gary, Indiana, and both just four years old. Samuel, who turns five on June 1, just upgraded to Tech Plus; Sarah, who won't be five until September 8, got her Novice ticket February 25.

Both are members of families where both parents and all but the infant members are licensed amateurs. Sarah's parents are the Rev Ronald Bruno Jr, KG9LY, and Pam Bruno, KB9RVX. Her siblings include Ronald III (15), KG9MH, Jeffrey (10), KB9RHO, and Joshua (5), KB9RER, who upgraded to General in December (he said the written test was hard). Their grandfather is the Rev Ronald Bruno Sr, KB9NWM, and their grandmother is Judith Bruno, KB9QZK.

Samuel's parents are the Rev Daryl Lewis, KB9-RRG, and LaDonna Lewis, KB9RRK, plus siblings Gabriel (9), KB9REP—who just got his General ticket—and John (7), KB9RRF. Samuel studied several months for his ticket and said passing the code test to upgrade was difficult.

All of the youngsters attend the senior Rev Bruno's

Hail and Farewell

This letter is directed to all those Amateurs who have been active with me for all these years. As of March 1, I have retired from the severe weather spotting business, and relinquished my appointment as Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator.

We began severe weather spotting operations back in the late 60's, when the Weather Service began issuing watches and warnings. During subsequent seasons, over 460 Wisconsin Amateurs were registered spotters in a program pioneered in Wisconsin, by Wisconsin Amateurs. It was the first in the nation! Some may remember those years - of up to six hours of horrendous storm static on 3950 kHz! And, sadly, some of those early dedicated folks are no longer with us.

No matter what the situation - tornadoes, floods, ice storms, snow storms - when called upon, everyone responded and got the job done.

History and present both dictate that, without the efforts of many, many individual Amateurs, no program can succeed, no matter how expert the planners may be.

And so, with Jim's (K9ZZ) kind help, I use this opportunity to express my gratitude and appreciation for the support and participation of all those who responded with me over the past 31 years. The confidence level I have enjoyed is a reward that cannot be equalled.

My best regards to all.

Sherm, W9NGT

Grace and Truth Baptist Academy in Gary, where ham radio has been a regular part of the curriculum for about a year now. The school has a ham station on site and classes run 52 weeks a year. KB9NWM says it's not uncommon for kids approaching age 4 to be able to read pretty well. He says the two families and other members of the church community use ham radio to stay in touch and for potential use during an emergency.

The eldest Bruno says he started out with his Tech license a couple of years ago, but decided he'd like to try HF and began learning the code. While he says the youngsters in his school readily grasp Morse code, he concedes the code was "a killer" for him. He now has his Advanced ticket.

The younger Rev Bruno soon will depart for the Philippines as a missionary and plans to take ham radio along with him.

-- Thanks to Bill Peterson, N9LL

The ARRL Letter, 3/20/98

MFJ Switching Power Supplies

Power your HF transceiver, 2 Meter/440 MHz mobile/base and accessories with these new 25 or 45 Amp MFJ MightyLite™ Switching Power Supplies! No RF hash... Super lightweight... Super small... Volt/Amp Meters...



MFJ-4225MV
25 Amp **\$149.95** Add s/h

MFJ's new adjustable voltage switching power supplies do it all! You can power your HF transceiver or 2-Meter/440 MHz mobile or base and accessories.

MFJ's MightyLites™ are so lightweight and small you can carry them in the palm of your hand! Take them with you anywhere.

No more picking up and hauling around heavy, bulky power supplies that can give you a painful backache, pulled muscle or hernia.

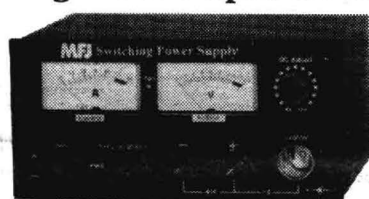
MFJ's 25 Amp MightyLite™ weighs just 3.7 lbs. -- that's 5 times lighter than an equivalent conventional power supply.

MFJ's 45 Amp version is even more dramatic -- 8 times lighter and weighs just 5.5 pounds!

No RF hash!

These babies are clean...

Your buddies won't hear any RF hash on



MFJ-4245MV **\$199.95** Add s/h

your signal! You won't hear any in your receiver either!

Some competing switching power supplies generate objectionable RF hash in your transmitted and received signal.

These super clean MFJ MightyLites™ meet all FCC Class B regulations.

Low ripple... Highly Regulated

Less than 35 mV peak-to-peak ripple under 25 or 45 amp full load. Load regulation is better than 1.5% under full load.

Fully Protected

You won't burn up these power supplies! They are fully protected with Over Voltage and Over Current protection circuits.

Worldwide Versatility

MFJ MightyLites™ can be used anywhere in the world! They have switchable AC input

voltage and work from 85 to 135 VAC or 170 to 260 VAC. Easily replaceable fuse.

MightyLites™... Mighty Features

MFJ MightyLites™ feature a front-panel voltage control. It lets you vary the output voltage from 9 to 15 Volts DC and gives you a highly regulated voltage output.

You get an easy access front-panel with five-way binding posts for heavy duty use and a cigarette lighter socket for mobile accessories. The MFJ-4245MV has two sets of quick-connects on the rear for accessories.

Large 3 inch dual meters are brightly illuminated to make it easy to monitor load voltage and current.

A whisper quiet internal fan efficiently cools your power supply for long life.

Two models to choose from...

MFJ-4225MV, \$149.95. 25 Amps maximum or 22 Amps continuous. Weighs 3.7 pounds. Measures 5 1/4" W x 4 1/2" H x 6 D inches.

MFJ-4245MV, \$199.95. 45 Amps maximum or 40 Amps continuous. Weighs 5.5 pounds. Measures 7 1/2" W x 4 3/4" H x 9 D inches.

MFJ No Matter What™ Warranty

MightyLites™ are covered by MFJ's famous No Matter What™ one year limited warranty. MFJ will repair or replace (at our option) your power supply for one full year.

let you monitor voltage and current.

Three sets of output terminals include a pair of heavy duty five-way binding posts for HF/VHF radios, two pairs of quick-connects for shack accessories and a covered cigarette lighter socket for mobile accessories.

A front-panel fuse holder makes fuse replacement easy. Whisper quiet fan speed increases as load current increases -- keeps components cool. 9 1/2" W x 6 H x 9 3/4" inches.

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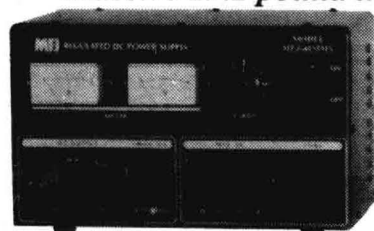
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MFJ 35/30 Amp Adjustable Regulated DC Power Supply

Massive 19.2 pound transformer... No RF hash... Adjustable 1 to 14 VDC...



NEW!
MFJ-4035MV
\$149.95 Add s/h

MFJ's heavy duty conventional power supply is excellent for powering your HF or 2 Meter/440 MHz transceiver and accessories.

A massive 19.2 pound transformer makes this power supply super heavy duty! It delivers 35 amps maximum and 30 amps continuous without even flexing its muscles. Plugs into any 110 VAC wall outlet.

It's highly regulated with load regulation better than 1%. Ripple voltage is less than 30 mV. No RF hash -- it's super clean!

Fully protected -- has over voltage protection, fold back short circuit protection and over-temperature protection.

You get front panel adjustable voltage from 1 to 14 VDC with a convenient detent set at 13.8 VDC. A pair of front-panel meters

let you monitor voltage and current.

Three sets of output terminals include a pair of heavy duty five-way binding posts for HF/VHF radios, two pairs of quick-connects for shack accessories and a covered cigarette lighter socket for mobile accessories.

A front-panel fuse holder makes fuse replacement easy. Whisper quiet fan speed increases as load current increases -- keeps components cool. 9 1/2" W x 6 H x 9 3/4" inches.

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MFJ High Current Multiple DC Power Outlets

Power two HF/VHF transceivers and six or more accessories from your 12 VDC power supply

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\$69.95 Add s/h



MFJ-1116
\$44.95 Add s/h



MFJ-1112
\$29.95 Add s/h



MFJ-1118, \$69.95. This is MFJ's most versatile and highest current Deluxe Multiple DC Power Outlet. It lets you power two HF and/or VHF transceivers and six or more accessories from your transceiver's main 12 VDC power supply.

Two pairs of super heavy duty 30 amp 5-way binding posts connect your transceivers. Each pair is fused and RF bypassed. Handles 35 Amps total. "ON" LED.

Six pairs of heavy duty, RF bypassed 5-way binding posts let you power your accessories. They handle 15 Amps total, are protected by a master fuse and have an

ON/OFF switch with an "ON" LED indicator. Built-in 0-25 VDC voltmeter. You get 6 feet of super heavy duty eight gauge color-coded cable with ring tongue terminals. Binding posts are spaced for standard dual banana plugs. Heavy duty aluminum construction. 12 1/2" x 2 3/4" x 2 1/2" inches.

MFJ-1116, \$44.95. Similar to MFJ-1118. No 30 amp posts. Has "ON" LED and 0-25 VDC voltmeter. 15 amps total.

MFJ-1112, \$29.95. Similar to MFJ-1116. No on/off switch, LED, meter, fuse.

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Bruninga said that to inject the Mir downlink into the Internet, a few of the normal APRS I-Gates tuned their radios from the normal APRS frequency to the Mir downlink frequency. "These Mir packets were intermingled with the normal stream of APRS packets into the APRServe Internet system," he said. To distinguish these from the usual 1000 to 1200 or more APRS stations on the air, a special Web page was

display them separately. "During the day of the event, there were over 11,000 hits on the server system representing a peak load of 150 simultaneous users and as many as 1000 users," he said.

Steve Dimse, K4HG, was one of those participating in the experiment. "It looked especially cool on the APRS page," he reports. "It was blank. Then suddenly all these stations started popping up."

Bruninga said the test was completely successful in meeting all of the original objectives. "The short notice and early morning hours helped to reduce the number of participants to a nominal 100 stations." He said that number was "representative of the nominal number of schools that could be authorized to simultaneously participate in future such Mir experiments."

James French, KD4DLA, was all set to take the Mir-APRS experiment to a local school for a demonstration, as originally suggested by MIREX. "I did have the station torn apart and packed away into the truck and took it to a elementary school this morning," he reported the day of the test. "I had fun showing everything off to 30+ sixth graders." Clay says he spent four hours showing and demonstrating APRS and ham radio, "plus a lot of discussion about Mir and the space Shuttle." He says he plans on doing it again, even without another "experiment."

Some schools in Hawaii and in the Eastern US still were able to check in via R0MIR. The list included Pearl City High School, WH6CVT, in Hawaii, the US Naval Academy Amateur Radio Club, W3ADO, in Annapolis, Maryland, Halifax County High School in Virginia (using NM4V), and schools in Connecticut, New Jersey, and New Hampshire.

--Thanks to Dave Larsen, N6CO;
Bob Bruninga, WB4APR;
James French, KD4DLA; and AMSAT News Service

The ARRL Letter, 3/20/98

Wow! What a party!

Wall-to-wall action is the only way I can describe the 1998 Wisconsin QSO Party.

This seven-hour "sprint" type contest, sponsored every March by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club, generated top-to-bottom phone band activity on 40 meters, and the CW portion of 40 pretty well fits that description, too. And, 75 and 80 were nothing to sneeze at. Some stations report extremely high activity levels on the VHF bands, too.

I think it a safe guess to say this year's WQP will go into the record books as the biggest yet, both in participation level and in scores. One mobile station reports a raw score that may exceed 100,000 points.

Even I set a "personal best", with a rate of 45 an hour, and that is with lots of breaks and very frequent retuning of the G5RV antenna. But I could work anyone I could hear, and I'd guess my actual on-air time was around 4½ hours at the most.

Hats off to WARAC!

Remember the Ontario QSO Party coming up; the rules are in this issue. I worked at least 10 stations in VE3 territory, and several mentioned their party. This will be just their second year. Hop on the air and give them a good show.

Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ

Emergency communications competition

The commercial satellite industry may soon be competing with Amateur Radio to provide free communications carriage for humanitarian efforts.

The March issue of *Satellite Communications Magazine* reports that Mobile Communications holdings Incorporated plans to offer free time on the Ellipso network for disaster relief efforts worldwide. According to Ellipso's Joseph Tedino, the company's objective is to offer relief organizations a way to foster good works and alleviate burdens. He says that the company plans to have at least a portion of the Ellipso services to be available by the year 2000.

For years, providing free emergency service communications has traditionally fallen to radio amateurs. This, as commercial service vendors have been hesitant to dip into corporate profits except in times of major disasters. (BSSS editor's note: They will be much less hesitant to give free service in order to staunch the barrage of anti-tower laws hitting their companies nationwide. This is called, in the vernacular, "kissy-butt".)

as far the satellite industry might think. This is because Ellipso's decision to furnish free satellite air time is just that. It's free air time to transmit information, but it does not include the trained communications personnel needed to get the messages delivered and the responses back.

And that's where trained, volunteer ham radio operators really shine. It's also why they will always be needed. As most emergency service communications directors know, the radio and air time is only half the communications equation.

Via Newsline, 3/20/98

Phase 3-D satellite readied for launch

AMSAT teams from a number of countries recently converged on the Phase 3-D Integration Lab in Orlando, Florida to install the remaining electronic and communications modules into the new Phase 3-D International Satellite, and make it 'flight ready' for launch.

In a joint statement issued just prior to their departure from Orlando on March 18th, Dr. Karl Meinzer, DJ4ZC, AMSAT-DL President and Phase 3-D Project Leader, and Bill Tynan, W3XO, AMSAT-NA President, outlined recent progress made on the satellite. "We are most happy to be here and to again participate with our international partners in the final integration of Phase 3-D," said Karl. "The cooperation with the American integration team in Orlando remains excellent." Karl went on to note that, "I am happy to say that after successfully recovering from the setbacks caused by the major structural reworks of last summer and fall, the spacecraft is now once again rapidly nearing flight readiness." Karl also expressed his gratitude to Stan Wood, WA4NFY, AMSAT-NA's VP Engineering, Lou McFadin, W5DID, P3-D Integration Laboratory Manager, and the other members of the Orlando Lab

Silent Key

LEONARD A. "LEE" SORENSEN, W9ULK, 88, of Oxford, died March 2, 1998. He was born April 12, 1909. During WW II, he worked at Badger Ordnance Works near Baraboo and Waukesha Motors. He then was employed by the Marquette County Highway Department for 22 years until he retired in 1971.

He was a charter member of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club.

Memorial may be made to the American Cancer Society or the American Diabetes Association.

Information from Ken Ebner, K9EN

team including Dick Jansson, WD4FAB, Rick Leon, KA1RHL and Bob Davis, KF4KSS, for their hard work in preparing the satellite for the final integration phase.

Soon after his arrival, Peter Guelzow, DB2OS, AMSAT-DL's Digital Integration Manager, performed a number of checks and measurements on the spacecraft's Internal Housekeeping Unit (IHU). The IHU is the spacecraft's main computer. Following this extensive checkout, Peter then successfully accomplished a major integration milestone by sending and receiving commands from the spacecraft via radio uplink. This was a critical task that had to be accomplished before each of the individual flight electronic modules could be commanded on and tested for flight readiness. Dr. Stacey Mills, W4SM, P3-D's North American Command Station, was also present in Orlando to assist the integration team by

Please turn to page 8

Virginia hams press governor to sign antenna bill

The full-court press is on in Virginia, where hams are urging Gov Jim Gilmore to sign into law a bill that limits local regulation of Amateur Radio antennas. In the face of fierce opposition from the Virginia Municipal League and the Virginia Association of Counties, Senate Bill 480, "Placement of Amateur Radio Antennas," has passed both houses of the Virginia General Assembly. But that victory did not come without compromises.

For all areas of the state, the bill incorporates the essence of the limited federal pre-emption known as PRB-1 into the Commonwealth's statutes. It requires local ordinances involving the placement, screening, or height of antennas to impose the "minimum regulation necessary to accomplish the locality's legitimate purpose." The original bill would have prohibited all localities from restricting antenna height to less than 200 feet above ground level "unless an Amateur Radio antenna clearly represents an unreasonable risk to human health or life." The version ultimately approved by the General Assembly keeps the 200 foot regulatory minimum but contains provisions for a lower height restriction--75 feet--in more densely populated communities.

The new law would require "reasonable and customary engineering practices" be followed in erecting towers. Municipalities would still be able to set "reasonable requirements" on screening, setback, placement, and health and safety requirements.

The measure, Senate Bill 480 (SB 480) was introduced January 26 by State Sen John Edwards of Roanoke. At the time, many observers gave the bill little chance of success. Bill supporters say they had assurances that Gilmore would sign the original bill, but they're not taking any chances now that the bill has

drawn fire from powerful lobby groups.

Virginia Section Emergency Coordinator Frank Mackey, K4EC, was elated at the outcome of the legislative effort. He has credited Bob Ham, KK4IY, of Vinton, "for initiating and spearheading this Herculean effort." Ham, the bill's aptly named and most prominent booster, has been using ham radio and the Internet to apprise the Old Dominion's amateur population of the bill's progress. Ham recently circulated the Governor's office telephone number (804-786-2211), fax number (804-371-6351) and address (State Capitol, Richmond, VA 23219) as part of an effort to keep up the pressure until Gilmore's signature is on the dotted line.

Ham personally wrote Gilmore this week to plead for his signature on the measure. "Never have I had to fight so hard to give something away," Ham told Gilmore. "That gift is the assurance of adequate and effective Amateur Radio communications for the citizens of this Commonwealth in times of disaster, emergency, and disruptive weather." Ham played upon Gilmore's designation of Virginia as "The Technology State" in encouraging support for what he called Virginia's "most precious and valuable technology, Amateur Radio."

Ham has said that the bill's language "provides Virginia with what is likely the strongest and most favorable state statute for amateur radio of any state in the United States," and he thinks it could serve as a model for other states. "I won't rest until this bill is signed," he said this week.

--Frank Mackey, K4EC; Bob Ham, KK4IY

The ARRL Letter, 3/20/98

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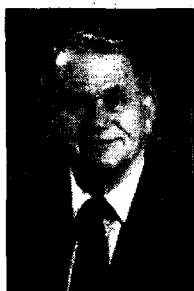
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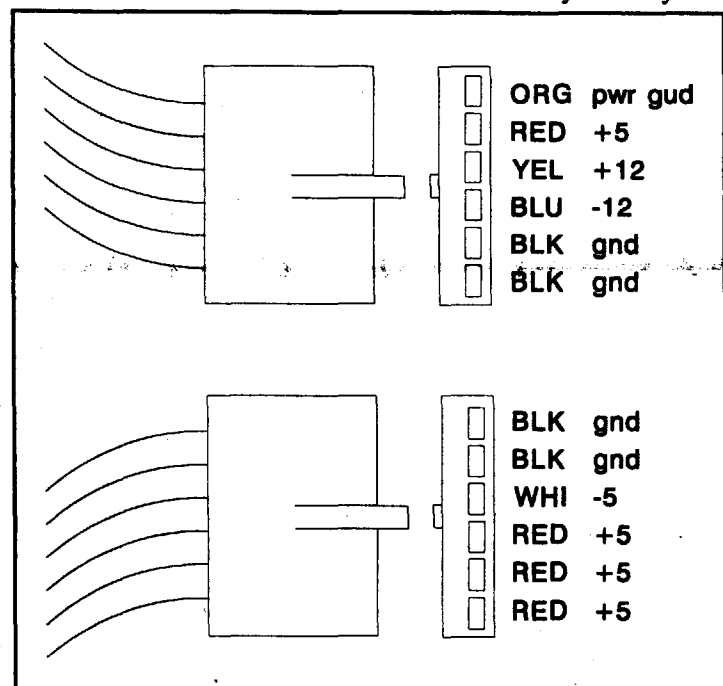
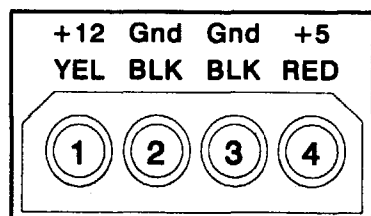
No. 53: Clean Up That Power Supply

Let's get back to a hardware topic this month. No need to remind a ham that the power supply is darned important, but there is a need to remind you that it needs maintenance. After only a year or two of use, the power supply can build up a tremendous amount of dust on its interior, even in your relatively clean house. Not long ago, I had occasion to open a computer I had given to one of my OZARES hams for packet radio use only 3 months before. Although it was perfectly clean when I first gave it to him, the interior, including the power supply, was jam-packed with dust devils - the worst I ever saw. I am sure the power supply would have failed (if not the motherboard), within another month or two had I not cleaned it thoroughly a second time. Dust is a computer's second worst enemy. It clogs airflow, which permits heat (the worst enemy) to build up to levels that can quickly cause components to fail.

What can the average person do to avert dust buildup in a power supply? At the very least, position your vacuum cleaner's hose flat against the fan grill to suck out what it can (don't do this with the computer on - it may damage the fan). That's something you should do at least a couple of times a year. But many of us hams can do a much more thorough job, and it is really quite easy as well as being a good learning experience. That is the subject of this month's article.

Start by removing the power cables going from the power supply to the drives. Don't

worry about the orientation of the connectors; they go into the drives only one way, as shown here in an end view of the large style connector. Furthermore, they are interchangeable among the same sizes; if you put the back the one taken from the A: drive on the B: drive, it will work fine, so long as both are of the same size. The smaller style, which is used with some hard and, often, 3 1/2 inch floppy drives, is also keyed so it will fit only one way.

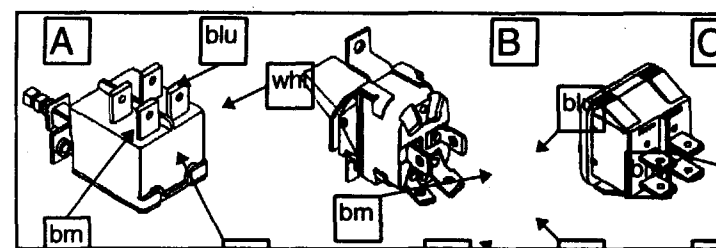


Next, and perhaps the most difficult step in disconnecting the power supply is to remove the power cables going to the motherboard. Here is where paper and pencil is important. There are two connectors. Note which of the two has an orange wire at one end. Note on your sketch where that orange wire goes - generally it is to the back of the case or toward the power supply box. My drawing should help you, but note that

some supplies do not have the +5 VDC red wire next to the orange wire shown here. Make a sketch of your setup. After you have plenty of notes so that you can put things back together, remove the two connectors by pulling straight up on the cable. If they slip up but don't come completely off, bend them over (gently! - they will bend in only one direction) until they are parallel to the motherboard. They will come off easily at that

point.

It is imperative that you know how to put them back. Remember this: the four black (ground) wires, two on each of the two connectors, should all be next to each other when the plugs are replaced. Also, that orange wire's position is critical. If you screw up on putting these two plugs back, you will most assuredly let the smoke out of the motherboard!



In case you are curious, the orange wire is the "power good" connector. When the power supply is up and running and feeling fine, it sends a digital signal

to the motherboard over this line to let the motherboard know it is OK to go ahead with the boot process.

If your power supply has a paddle type switch integrated into the case, you are ready to pull the supply. If your unit has a push button or rocker type switch on the end of a cable, you will have to disconnect the wires leading to the switch first. Again, get out your paper and pencil, and note what color wire goes to what lug on the switch. This diagram shows the most common connections for the three switch types: A = push button B = paddle C = rocker, but make notes on your setup to avoid any confusion when reassembling the unit.

Finally, take the supply out of the computer's case. Remove the four screws on the back of the computer cabinet that hold it in place. A few power supplies are fastened with another screw or two on the interior, at the end of the power supply toward the front of the cabinet. When all screws are out, slide the power supply toward the front of the computer case a bit to disengage the locking brackets on the bottom of the power supply case if they are present, and lift it out.

Now you are ready to open the supply. The top and, usually, front of the power supply case are one piece. Remove the screws and take off the top/front. Put it in your laundry tub and wash it with detergent, then dry it and set it aside.

AT THIS POINT, YOU NEED TO USE CAUTION BECAUSE SOME VOLTAGES MAY STILL BE PRESENT INSIDE THE CASE! Use an insulated-handle screwdriver to short any exposed metal objects to the remaining case. Especially be sure to short any metal heat sinks. You do not want to get a shock.

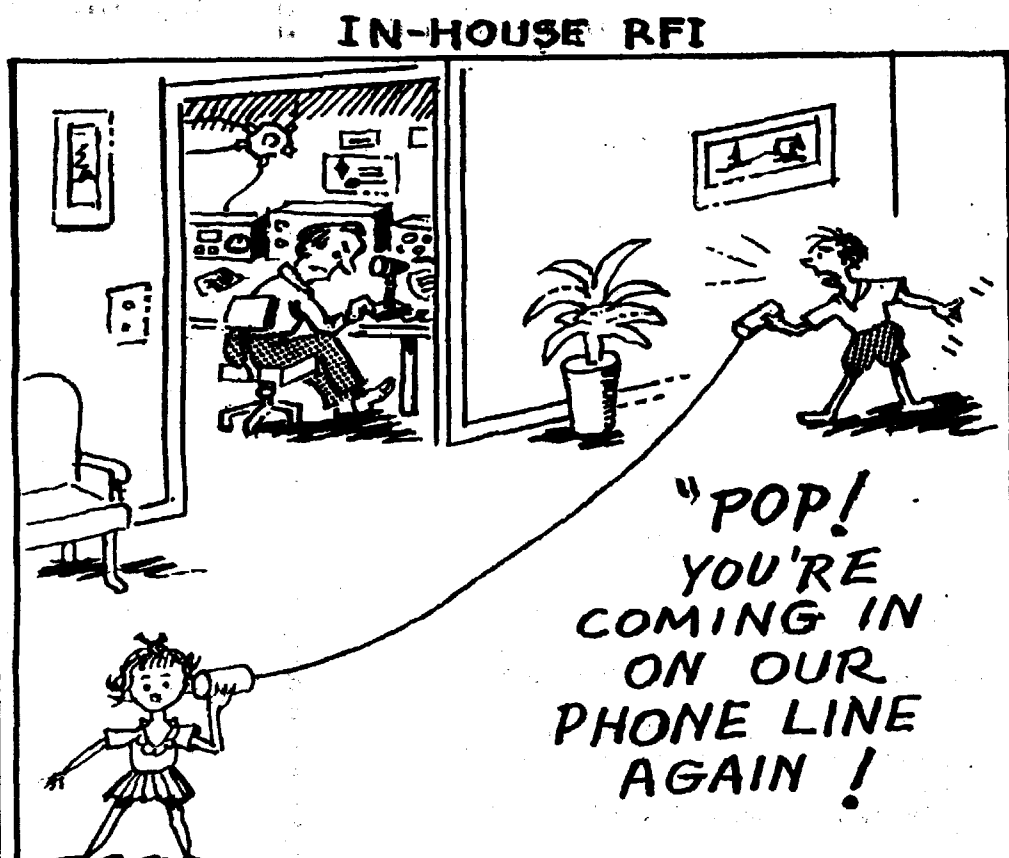
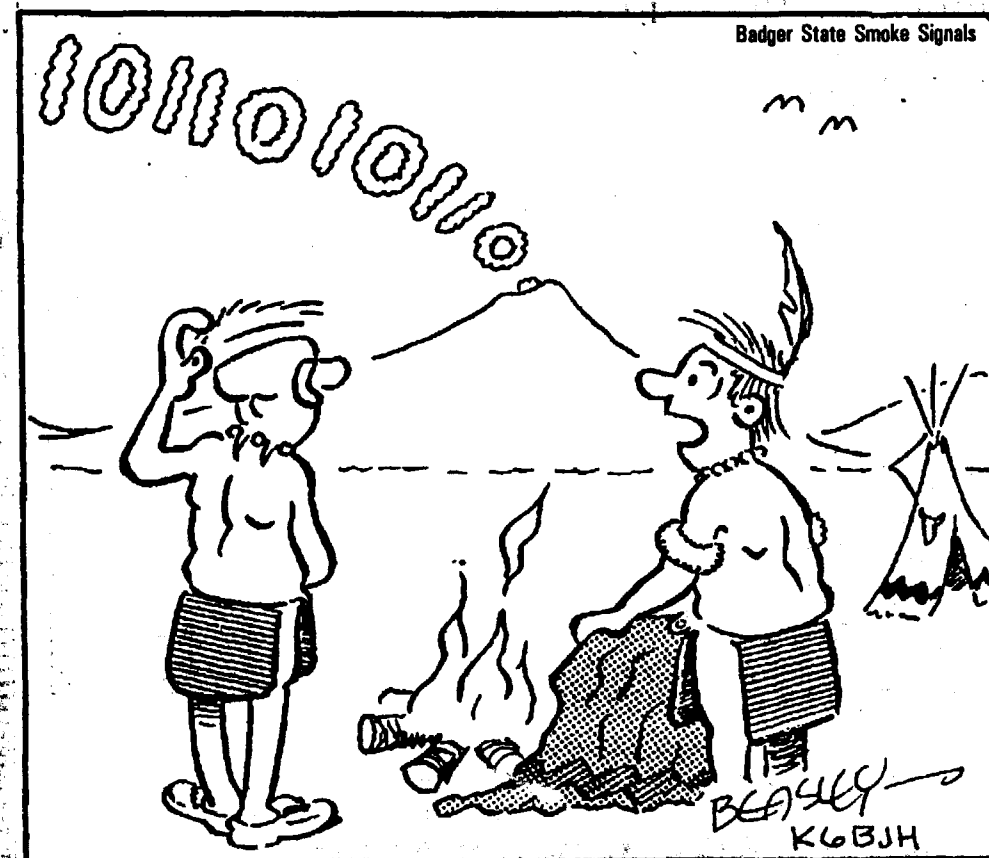
Now you need two highly specialized tools: 1) a soft, 1/2 to 1 inch paintbrush, 2) a vacuum cleaner hose attached to your shop vac or household vacuum. Start the vacuum and hold the hose end close to the circuit board with one hand. With the other, gently brush loose any dust you see on the components. Brush gently - you just need to dislodge the dust, not the components! Pay particular attention to the colored wires as they go from the circuit board to the bushing in the case wall, since they are a favorite spot for hidden dust. Also get all the loose dust out from between the capacitors and off all surfaces of the heat sinks. Look at the fan. Are its leads soldered to the circuit board? If they are attached via a removable connector, remove it. Take out the four screws that hold the fan in place (but first sketch how it is oriented in both possible planes!). Remove the fan and, sitting in a chair with the vacuum hose between your knees and pointing toward the ceiling, hold the fan over the hose and brush, brush, brush. Use some 70% alcohol (rubbing alcohol) and a soft rag or paper towel to clean it up thoroughly after all the dust is gone. See all that gray goop the towel picked up? Make it all go on the rag and off the fan.

If you have a can of compressed air, blow out the power supply after your vacuuming job is done, but, step outside to do this. You will be surprised at the amount of dust you missed with the vacuum that blows out during this step. Also blow out the fan, especially in the crack between the blade assembly and the motor itself. That may well prevent the fan from seizing up and burning out next week.

You are done. Now put it all back by reversing what you did. Remember to loop the fan's leads around the cables before plugging the connector into the circuit board. And, make sure the fan is oriented so that it blows air out of the case, not in. Isn't it amazing how often you have to consult your notes? Where would you be without them? Up a creek!

Use special care to get the connectors back where they belong, especially the motherboard connectors. Finally, when everything is reassembled, plug in your monitor and keyboard and fire the computer up with the cover off. Watch the screen and the computer's interior. Don't let out any smoke. Assuming all is well, turn it off and button it up. Have fun, and happy computing!

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USA-CA is The United States of America Counties Award, sponsored by *CQ Magazine* for working counties in the United States. The award is given for confirming contacts with US counties in increments for each 500 counties up to 3000, and the final award is presented for 3076 counties. All Counties Award #1 was given to K9EAB August 15, 1965, and Award #947 to Jeff, W9MSE, Fond du Lac, WI, on February 19, 1998.

After being a SWL for several years, Jeff became KN0WNV in 1959 as a Junior in high school through the help of members of the New Ulm (MN) Radio Club. Jeff upgraded to Conditional as K0WNV in 1960, and did his operating with his Viking Ranger, mostly on CW with a little operating on AM. He became fairly inactive during the years that he went away to college. In 1968, after about two and half years of graduate school, Jeff decided to bring the rig to Iowa and get back on the air.

He used the Ranger with a Gotham vertical which was grounded to the roof of the Quonset hut in which he lived in married student housing.

It was then that Jeff began county hunting in the middle of 1968 as K0WNV/0 in Iowa. He picked up many counties through the many state and regional QSO parties that were going on at that time. Jeff also went through all his old QSLs going back to his Novice days to find counties (it was more work then, as counties were not printed on anyone's QSLs at that time).

About March 3, 1969, he ran across and made his first QSOs on the CWCHN (County Hunters Net) on 14.070. The net operated on Saturdays and also when a mobile planned a trip. Along with K1ZFQ, Jeff became one of the main net control stations for the net on 14070.

In the Spring of 1969, he purchased a Swan 260 and began to use it for mobile operation (all CW). Lots of fun (?) using a rig with no CW side tone, and which did not have break-in keying (it required turning the knob to switch from send to receive and back each time). However, Jeff gave out about 350 counties, including all of South Dakota on various vacations, trips for the CHN (County Hunters Net), many QSO Parties and in the CWCH Contest (many years).

In August 1969, Jeff moved to Rapid City, SD. He was there for three years before moving here to Fond du Lac, WI in August 1972, where he became W9MSE.

By the late 1970's, he was becoming very inactive in ham radio and basically was completely off the air through the 1980's.

On July 20, 1990, for some reason he doesn't remember, he decided it was time to see if his rigs and antenna still worked and, if so, to get back into ham radio. He found the CWCHN net, now on 14.056.5, and began to get back into county hunting (along with some DXing). Jeff purchased a TS-440S and a new 8 band vertical in September 1990 and became very active in ham radio again. He got rid of the Swan 260, and still has the Ranger ("as my back-up rig", and sentimental first rig) setting on the shelf after almost 39 years.

In March 1996, he again got set up for mobile operation, and through 1996 and 1997 he has made over 11,500 mobile CW contacts from over 800 counties in 48 states.

Through the years, the major source for counties has been the mobiles on the CHN. However, many counties were worked in numerous contests and many from normal rag chews, especially from the years before he actually started county hunting. At the end of his quest, about 25 of his last 100 counties were made through skeds with fixed stations made via e-mail. Many different mobiles contributed to the county total, but to give examples of two extremes, Jeff has WA5KQD/M recorded as a station worked in 665 counties.

He, almost single handedly, gave me the 5th Call Area completed by 1975 (235 out of 254 in Texas). Jeff worked K0PG/M for 8 counties starting in September 1997. As a result of e-mail skeds, he came from SSB to work Jeff on CW and finish up 5 states in those 8 contacts (MN, WI, ND, SD, and NE), including my 48th and 49th states on January 31, 1998. Jeff's 4th to last county was worked with KF4DIX (a Tech Plus) at his home QTH in KY, on the 80 meter Novice band. His last 3 counties (in KY) were worked in February with K4AVX/M, as a result of an e-mail sked with him. Jeff had worked him back in 1972-73, and then once in 1980. So, it was great to work one of the old timers to complete the award.

Jeff says, "To me though, even more important than the USA-CA #947, was that the award was worked ALL-CW". It put him at #61 on the CW Honor Roll of those who worked all counties on CW (actually Jeff is the 53rd person in the world to do it. This is because the CW Honor Roll allows repeats to be included, while the actual USA-CA is only for the first time an individual works all counties). #1 on CW was W8RSW in about 1976.

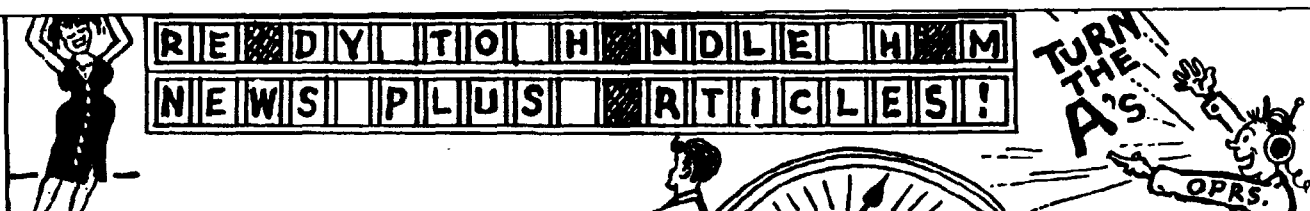
Dates for QSLs received for each step on the award begin with 500 on 8-17-68 (most were from before Jeff started county hunting):

1000 4-29-70	2500 2-1-76
1500 3-8-71	3000 5-5-97
2000 6-1-72	3076 2-14-98

Jeff is now at 30 counties worked for the second time around, however now QSLs are not needed for the repeat awards.

Congratulations for a job well done, Jeff!

Fond du Lac ARC Newsletter
via Gene, KD9ZP



ANNOUNCING:

The 2nd Annual Ontario QSO Party

Date: April 25-26, 1998, 18:00 UTC TO 18:00 UTC
Frequencies: (Phone/CW) All HF bands 160-10 meters with the exception of the WARC bands (12, 17 and 30 meters) which by IARU agreement are contest-free. All VHF/UHF bands.

Suggested frequencies for mobiles/QRP: 1.870, 3.735, 3.860, 7.070, 7.260, 14.130, 14.265, 21.260, 28.360 on SSB, 1.820, 3.520, 3.720, 7.020, 7.120, 14.020, 21.020, 21.120, 28.020 on CW, 52.540, 146.550, 446.100 on FM

Use of FM: Operators may not use repeaters for the purpose of the contest. Operators should keep the 2 meter FM simplex calling frequency of 146.520 MHz. clear. Operators may not use repeaters for the purpose of soliciting contacts.

Categories: Multi-Operator, Single Operator Low Power (up to 150 watts on HF, up to 50 watts on VHF/UHF), Single Operator High Power (over 150 watts on HF, and over 50 watts on VHF/UHF), Single Operator Single Band, Mobile, HF QRP (5 watts and under), VHF/UHF FM QRP, CW, SSB or mixed mode. Also shortwave listener category.

Exchange: Ontario stations send signal report and Ontario county, district, regional municipality, or city in the case of the amalgamated City of Toronto. Other stations send signal report and a Canadian province/territory, U.S. state or DXCC country.

Scoring: Ontario stations work everyone. Stations outside Ontario work only Ontario stations. Score 1 point for every station worked per band. Score 10 points for working VE3ODX and VA3RAC per band. Shortwave Listeners log only Ontario stations. Work each station once per band whether CW or SSB.

Multiplier points: Ontario stations earn 1 multiplier point for each Ontario county, district, regional municipality and the amalgamated City of Toronto worked on each band (see multiplier list), each Canadian province/territory, each U.S. state and DXCC country.

Stations outside Ontario earn 1 multiplier point for each Ontario county, district, regional municipality and for the amalgamated City of Toronto worked on each band. Shortwave Listeners use the same formula for

multiplier points as stations outside Ontario.

Mobile/portable stations: Mobile and/or portable stations may be worked once per band from each Ontario county, district or regional municipality they operate from.

Awards: Certificates to the top scorers in each category and to top scorers in each Ontario county, district, regional municipality, amalgamated City of Toronto, Canadian province/territory, U.S.A. state, and DXCC country. Each station making over 100 QSO's will qualify for an Ontario QSO Party; badge bearing your call sign. Operators at multi-operator stations making over 100 QSO's will also qualify. Other certificates may be awarded based on activity.

Grand prize: Copy of *Passport to World Band Radio* to the top scorer from Ontario, Canada (outside Ontario), the U.S.A. and DXCC entry.

Logs: Entries should be postmarked no later than May 31, 1998. Send your logs to: Ontario QSO Party, Ontario DX Association, P.O. Box 161, Stn. A, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5S8. Entries can be sent on disk or via the Internet in standard text file format. (Please do not send logs in a word processing format and please include your snail mail address). Please send e-mail logs to ve3sre@compuserve.com. Please insure that your entry includes the class you are entering in and the multiplier area(s) that you operated from. If you qualify for an Ontario QSO Party badge please send \$2.00 to help cover costs. Feel free to submit your comments or photographs, etc.

Entry forms may be downloaded from the ODXA website, send an e-mail note to a mailto: ve3sre@compuserve.com or by sending an SASE to the ODXA.

Results: This year, results will be posted on the ODXA website at <http://www.grove.net/~odxa> as they come in. Results will also be published in the September issue of *DX Ontario*. If you'd like a snail-mailed copy of the results, please send an SASE or outside Canada an SAE with sufficient IRC's or greenstamps to cover postage. Please do not fix non-Canadian postage stamps to SAE's. If you'd like a copy of the September issue of *DX Ontario* please send \$5.00 Canadian or equivalent.

Continued on page 8



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P.O. Box 1867 Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867

DIRECTIONS

I-94/Hwy 93 Exit (68) at Eau Claire, South on Hwy 93 1/4 mile, then right on Lorch Ave between Ken Vance & Jim Carter Ford to the Exposition Center.

* Talk-in on the E.C.A.R.C. 146.31/91 Repeater *

DISTRICT

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 Cochrane District COC
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 Haliburton District HLB
 Halton Regional Municipality HTN
 Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality HAM
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 Lanark County LAN
 Leeds-Grenville County LGR
 Lennox-Addington County LXA
 Manitoulin District MAN
 Middlesex County MSX
 Muskoka District MUS
 Niagara Regional Municipality NIA
 Nipissing District NIP
 Northumberland County NOR
 Oxford County OXF
 Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality OTT
 Parry Sound District PSD
 Peel Regional Municipality PEL
 Perth County PER
 Peterborough County PET
 Prescott-Russell County PRU
 Prince Edward County PED
 Rainy River District RAI
 Renfrew County REN
 Simcoe County SIM /br
 Stormont-Dundas-Glengarry County SDG
 *Sudbury District SUD
 Thunder Bay District TBY
 Timiskaming District TIM
 City of Toronto (as amalgamated Jan. 1, 1998) TOR
 Victoria County VIC
 Waterloo Regional Municipality WAT
 Wellington County WEL
 York Regional Municipality YRK

(Sudbury Regional Municipality counts as Sudbury District for the purpose of the contest.) ☐

Georgia hams expand role in flood recovery

Hams called out in the wake of recent flooding in Georgia have shifted gears from assisting with emergency shelter communication to aiding long-term recovery efforts. Dougherty County EC Arthur Shipley, N4GPJ, in Albany, Georgia, reports that members of the ARES team in his area had been providing communication for a feeding center operated by Georgia's Baptist Relief and for cleanup crews, FEMA, and the Red Cross. "They are doing a great job," he said. "Our relationship with the local disaster officials have been extremely close-knit. They have asked us to provide advice and are extremely impressed and cooperative with the Amateur Radio efforts here."

Now, the hams' role has shifted from emergency response to long-term cleanup and care as many ARES members had to return to their jobs this week. Shipley reports some 500 houses were damaged in Dougherty County, and 200 in Lee County. "Teams are still assessing Miller County and others south of us," he reported on March 17. Approximately 11,000 residents were evacuated in Dougherty County alone.

Shipley said the flooding primarily came from Kinchafoonee and Muckalee creeks, which feed the Flint River. As of mid-week, more rain was expected. "We will be leaving our temporary stations set up until this weekend, just in case," he said.

Shipley estimated that as many as 50 hams were directly involved in emergency response, flood relief, damage assessment, and recovery efforts. He said hams will continue to support the Red Cross and other agencies, and he expects some use of HF or repeater linking to maintain communication with outlying areas not accessible via existing VHF or UHF systems.

The troublesome Flint River flows into Lake Seminole on the Florida border, and the Apalachicola River continues south into Florida's West Panhandle. ARES members in Northern Florida have been keeping a close eye on rising rivers and streams there and in supporting Red Cross shelters handling evacuees from flooded communities.

--Thanks to Arthur Shipley, N4GPJ, and Nils Millergren, WA4NDA

The ARRL Letter, 3/20/98

HERE AND THERE

Continued from page 5

putting the finishing touches on software to format and decode the telemetry stream from the satellite. Needless to say, there were big smiles all around when, once again, P3-D team members heard the familiar "growl" of 400 baud PSK telemetry coming from the new "bird".

In addition to his duties as AMSAT-DL's Vice President, Werner Haas, DJ5KQ, is responsible for coordinating the entire communications suite for Phase 3-D. While in Orlando, Werner performed yet another bench test on each of the flight electronic modules just prior to their re-installation into the satellite. Then, Werner directed other members of the communications team including Freddy de Guchteneire, ON6UG, and Dr.

Matjaz Vidmar, S53MV, in successfully powering up each of the onboard flight electronic modules. Michael Fletcher, OH2AUE, and Harri Leskinen, OH2JMS, were also on hand in Orlando during this time to re-install the 10 GHz transmitter hardware. In addition, Stefaan Burger, ON4FG, assisted the communications team by connecting and powering up the 24 GHz transmitter. It performed "as advertised", delivering its designed 1 watt output into its 26db gain feed-horn antenna.

The RUDAK team was well represented in Orlando by Peter Guelzow, DB2OS, Bdale Garbee, N3EUA, Jim White, WD0E, Chuck Green, N0ADI, and Harold Price, NK6K. They gave the RUDAK digital experiment module a thorough checkout and declared it 'electrically flight ready'. Bdale also performed a complete check of the JAMSAT SCOPE camera. In addition, Gerd Schrick, WB8IFM, was on hand in Orlando to help the P3-D team put the final touches on the satellite's all-important Earth and Sun sensors. These instruments will help ground controllers determine Phase 3-D's physical orientation in orbit for tracking and motor burn considerations.

Meanwhile, Konrad Mueller, DG7FDQ, AMSAT-DL's Structural Specialist, and his team consisting of Horst Wagner, DB2ZB, and the P3-D Lab's Bob Davis, were busy preparing the second Specific Bearing Structure (SBS) for flight. The SBS is the large cylindrical structure that will ultimately carry the Phase 3-D spacecraft to orbit. In addition, Phase 3-D's Documentation Manager, AMSAT-DL's Wilfred Gladish, was also present in Orlando to insure that all the spacecraft's documentation, including each of the spacecraft's drawings and photos, match the 'as built' spacecraft.

Despite the very good progress made in this most recent integration effort, a definitive launch opportunity for Phase 3-D remains unsure. However, negotiations with the European Space Agency for a ride to orbit are continuing in earnest, and all remain optimistic that Phase 3-D will be successfully launched .. hopefully sometime this year.

[ANS thanks AMSAT-NA VP Keith Baker, KB1SF, for the information that went into this bulletin.]

AMSAT News Service

Phase 3-D "Callsign to Fly" Award

Ron Broadbent, G3AAJ, AMSAT-International board member, told ANS recently the 'Callsign to Fly Award' for Phase 3-D is still open for more donations from around the world in any currency.

Those individuals that contribute a minimum of \$288.00 (US) will receive a personal engraved plaque and have their name and callsign engraved on a plate fixed to the spacecraft. A photograph will also be sent to each contributor.

Information on the 'Callsign to Fly Award' can be obtained from G3AAJ using his e-mail address:

g3aaj@amsat.org

Details of the program are also available on two active amateur digital satellites, KO-23 and KO-25. AMSAT-NA members can also contact AMSAT-NA headquarters during normal business hours. Information may also be mailed to G3AAJ at the following address;

Ron Broadbent, G3AAJ
 AMSAT-UK Callsign to Fly Fund
 40 Downs View Small Dole
 Henfield, West Sussex
 BN5 9YB United Kingdom

[ANS thanks Ron Broadbent, G3AAJ, for this information]
 AMSAT News Service

YAESU KENWOOD QRO TECHNOLOGIES ALINCO

Lakeshore Hamfest

Electronics & Computer Swapfest Manitowoc County Expo

Intersection of Hwys 42-151 and I-43 on County Hwy R (Follow signs to Expo Center)

Saturday A.M., May 9, 1998

Doors open at 8 a.m.

Friday night set-up for vendors till 10:00 p.m.

or beginning 6:00 a.m. Saturday morning

Accommodations for vendor drive-ins

FCC amateur exams

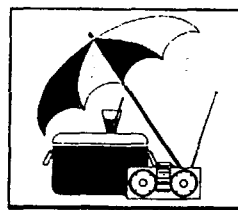
For more information, call

GLENN (920)-684-7096 any time

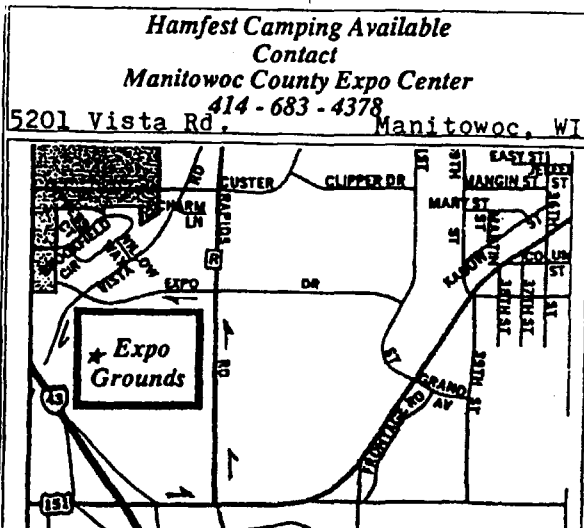
RED (920)-684-9097 days

Call - in repeater frequencies

146.61- or 147.03+



FOOD - DOOR PRIZES - BEVERAGES



Send reservations to:

Mancorad Radio Club
 P.O. Box 204
 Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

Please send
 a
 S.A.S.E.

Name: _____
 Street: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Advance Admissions \$3.00 each
 Reserved 8' Tables \$6.00 each
 Electric Outlets \$5.00 each
 TOTAL

*Admission \$4.00 at the door

DNEC Field Checking at Expo

FCC Exams (all classes)
 Silver Lake College (Hwy 151)
 Test Registration closes at 9:00am

Please Send a S.A.S.E.

AMERITRON CUSHCRAFT

ICOM

MCM ELECTRONICS

PC DISK

COUNTRY SATELLITE

ALPHA/POWER

STANDARD

AZDEN

DRAKE

KACHMINA COMMUNICATIONS

MFJ

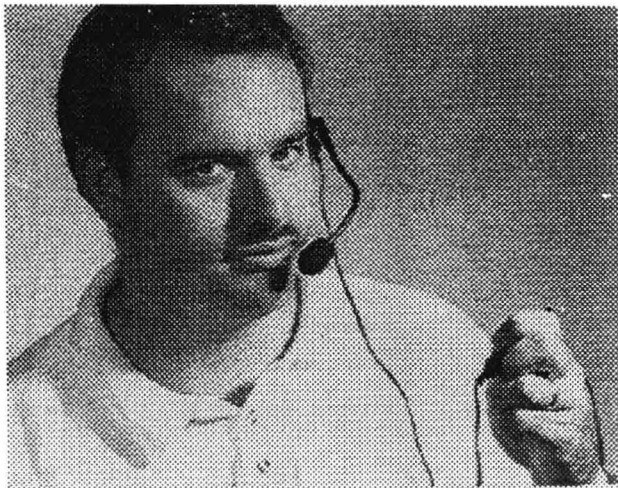
COLLINS

KANTRONICS

TEN-TEC

NEW PRODUCTS

MFJ Deluxe Headset Microphone™



This top quality *Deluxe Headset Microphone™* from MFJ gives you the appearance of utmost importance. It brings a distinctive hint of professionalism to your amateur radio counterparts. It's super light weight, gives you superb transmit and receive audio, and is priced at just \$24.95.

Walking through an airport, at home, or in your car, this headset gives you the ability to carry on a private QSO while doing other things. The mic can pick up your voice, whether booming or at a quiet whisper when placed appropriately near your mouth. The earphone gives superb tonal quality, so even distant stations will come in loud and clear.

It's made of sturdy black plastic and strong metal sliders -- one size fits all! This *MFJ Deluxe Headset Microphone™* will give you extremely good quality on receive and transmit audio. The tonal quality gives you an equal amount of high and low pitch tones.

A microphone element is attached to the headset with a flexible rubber extension. This allows the positioning of the mic to be anywhere within the reach of your voice. Superb speaker and mic foaming protects the mic and speaker elements as well as making the ear fit very comfortable.

A small PTT switch can be conveniently attached to your shirt or pants pocket, your lapel, or inside your shirt. This PTT is very compact (measures just 1/2" W x 1" H) but exceptionally durable. It won't wear out, even if you're one of those hams who just loves to talk.

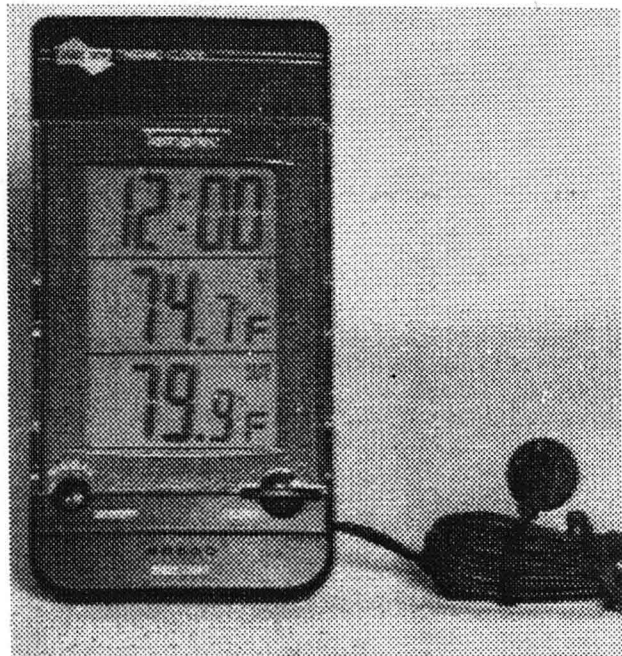
Four feet of cord from the headset to the PTT switch gives you the flexibility to put it where it feels most comfortable without stretching damage. Another two feet of cord goes from the PTT switch to the two prong plug with heavy duty insulation around the bend points.

Receive impedance is 150 Ohm with a sound pressure level of 108 dB. Maximum input power is 30 mW and frequency range is 100 Hz to 5 kHz. Transmitting microphone is condenser type with low impedance and -42 dB V/Pa sensitivity. Frequency range is 20 Hz to 16 kHz.

The MFJ-2881 works with ICOM, Yaesu, Standard, ADI, Radio Shack and other compatible handheld transceivers. The MFJ-288K works with Kenwood and compatible handheld radios.

MFJ's *Deluxe Headset Microphone™* comes with MFJ's famous *No Matter What™* one year limited warranty. That means that MFJ will repair or replace (at our option) your headset mic for one complete year.

MFJ-152 ThermometerClock™



for indoor/outdoor temperatures and 24 hour time at a glance.... only \$24.95 each!

Now you can share accurate up-to-the-minute temperature information with your ham buddies over-the-air! With a glance you can tell the outdoor/indoor temperature and 12 or 24 hour time simultaneously.

MFJ's new *ThermometerClock™* has huge 3/4 inch LCD multiple display characters that give you 24/12 hour time and Centigrade or Fahrenheit temperatures for the inside and outside location of your QTH.

The MFJ-152 gives an automatic daily update of the minimum and maximum temperature readings. This tells you the day's temperature variance. You also get a memory function that recalls the max/min temperature

MFJ's new *ThermometerClock™* is designed for your ham shack or emergency office! It's a handsome, tough black molded plastic that will be attractive mounted on the wall or displayed on your equipment. 10 feet of outdoor sensor wire is supplied with an outdoor sensor mount. You can put it where it will best give you accurate outdoor temperatures.

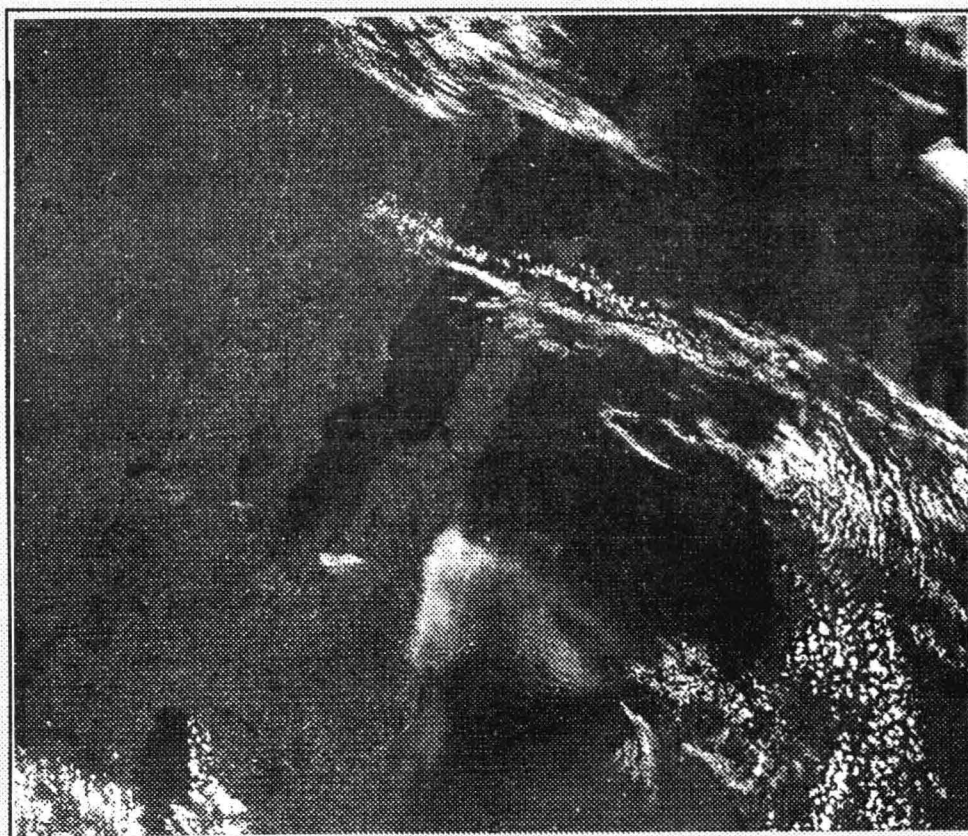
Every ham needs a *ThermometerClock™*. It's the perfect gift idea for your favorite ham. The next time your contact asks you what the time and temperature is, you'll have it ready at a glance.

Matter What™ one year limited warranty. That means that MFJ will repair or replace (at our option) your MFJ-152 for one complete year.

To order, or for your nearest dealer, call 800-647-1800; FAX 601-323-6551; e-mail: mfj@mfjenterprises.com; or check out dealer and ordering information on our Web site: <http://www.mfjenterprises.com>.

MFJ news releases

Down here from up there



During the Skylab II mission in the early 1970s, this photo of Green Bay and the Door county peninsula was taken. Lake Michigan is visible as are some high clouds. The top end of Lake Winnebago is at lower left.

NASA photo

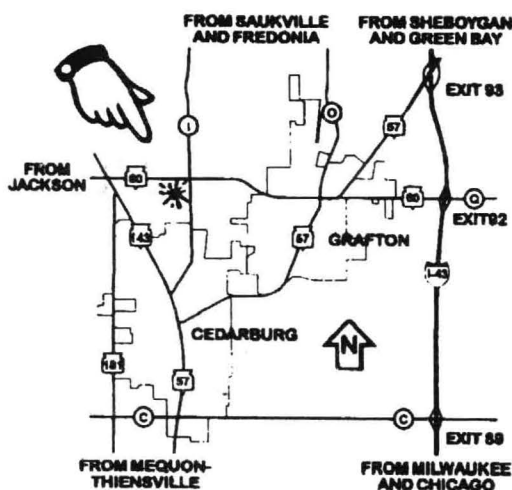
The Ozaukee Radio Club presents its 20th Annual

AMATEUR RADIO AND COMPUTER

SWAPFEST Cedarburg, WI

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1998
8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

CIRCLE B RECREATION CENTER
Intersection of St. Hwy 60 and Ozaukee Cty I



Talk-in: 146.37/97 and 146.52

ARRL SANCTIONED
PLENTY OF FREE PARKING
FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS

Amateur license exams will be administered between 9:00 AM and 12:00 Noon. For pre-registration, send a postcard with your name, call, address, telephone number, and exam elements desired to:

Badger Examiners
c/o Gary Sharbuno, WI9M
5119 W. Willow Road
Brown Deer, WI 53223
(414) 355-0237

Bring the original PLUS a COPY of your current Amateur license plus another form of I.D.

RESERVE YOUR TABLES EARLY
Power availability limited - first come first served
(Bring your own duct tape to secure extension cords)

For further information, call Gabe Chido, N9QQA,
at (414) 377-2784 between 6:00 and 8:00 PM.

Advance Registration Form - 1998 Ozaukee Radio Club's Cedarburg Swapfest

Please send the following tickets by return mail in the ENCLOSED SASE:



— Admission tickets @ \$4.00 (same price at the door)

Note: All persons entering the swapfest must have an admission ticket

— 4-foot tables @ \$5.00 — Power requested

— Return application if power is not available



NAME: _____ CALLSIGN: _____ PHONE: _____

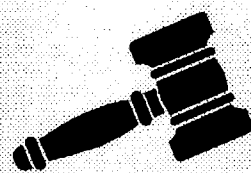
ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Mail this form with your check and a SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED (BUSINESS SIZED) ENVELOPE to:
O.R.C. Swapfest Committee - W58 N985 Essex Drive - Cedarburg, WI 53012-1439



PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Kim Kunze, N9SDL, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI 54402

Six Meter Repeater: 51.19 Input/52.89 Output

MEETING MINUTES March 3rd, 1998

The meeting was called to order by Jim, N9SDI. Members present were N9SDL, KB9DZG, KB9FRB, N9IAB, N9TTA, KB9MCZ, N9NRC, KB9DED, N9NMH, N9PHC, N9LIA, KA9DQD, N9MEA, KB9RXA, K9JPS, W9VHA, N9NRA, N9NQW, N3FDE and KB9RWW. Two new members, KA1T, Don, and KB9OPQ, Dave. Visiting was Rick Elsener, W9RCW, our Official Observer Coordinator (OOC).

The minutes from last month's meeting were approved from a motion by KB9DED and 2nd by N9NMH. Treasurer's report was approved after a motion by N9LIA and 2nd by KB9DZG.

We will be conducting Dream Flight Wausau Communicator training for 5th graders of the Wausau School District in March and April (3/17, 3/31, 4/2 and 4/9) please offer to help with this training. Dream Flight week will be the 4th through the 8th of May. We will be looking for volunteers for helping out that week at Mission Control with what ever time you can spare. It is a great time and we have some hams already signed up for the whole week!! We need your help to pull this off!! The WVRA will be sponsoring the second annual Dream Flight Wausau Special Event Station during the week long event in the Wausau School District.

Under old business the status of the 6-meter repeater was discussed. Dick, KA9DQD, got permission for the club to locate the 6M repeater on the tower at Wausau Hospital. The members approved this action with a motion from N9LIA and 2nd from KB9MCZ. Contact was made with Fred Prehn, WX9W, and his site will serve as a backup in case the hospital site doesn't work out.

We will be having a club-sponsored Special Event Station for the 150th celebration of Wisconsin's Statehood and operating as W 9 W. The date will be Friday May 29th, 6:00 p.m. until Saturday, May 30th, 6:00 p.m. (May 30 0000Z - 2400Z). Operators interested, see a board member. A certificate will be provided to confirmed contacts and receipt of a 9 x 12 SASE. Tom, N9TTA, will make arrangements for the use of a Porta Potty. Kim, N9SDL will get the use permit.

Under new business:

Camp Phillips has been reserved for our use for Field Day this year. Please mark your calendars for this event June

27-28, 1998.

The application for ARRL Special Service Club status has been approved by Bette Kratz, the AAC, and has been forwarded to Roy Pedersen, the ARRL Section Manager.

With a motion from N9SDI and 2nd from N9LIA, it was voted to waive 1998 dues for N9MEA and N9NMH for their involvement in the 6M repeater. We will also continue the honorary membership for WX9W as an alternate repeater site.

The tower on Rib will be replaced soon. Any antennas such as ours that can't be supported by written documentation will not have a home on the new tower. Mike, N9IAB, will check with Forward Electronics for our paperwork.

We have found an alternate site for the monthly WVRA Club meeting. We will meet there in April. It will be at Riverview Towers and is located across Grand Avenue from Central Fire Station. Parking is available on the north side of the building with entrance to the meeting room via the main front entrance under the canopy on the Grand Avenue side or the building.

Thanks to the following for helping at Badger State Winter Games: N9IAB, N9FOL, N9VXK, N9TTA, N9NQD, N9SDI, N9TSZ, N9SDL, KB9DED, K9LWL, N9LIA, N9OWD, N9NQK, WD9CPY, N9YYU, N9SDG, N9MEA and N9NMH, National Guard SSG Mike Wilhelm, PFC John Burbach, PFC Ben Hodgson and PFC Darren Ackley. And at the Special Olympics Winter Games: N9IAB, N9LIA, N9TTA, N9SDL, N9SDI and KA1T.

The April meeting will be election of board members. The program for the meeting will be explanation of the use of Club's repeater functions such as auto patch etc.

The meeting was adjourned after a motion from N9LIA and 2nd from N9NRA.

Rick Elsener, W9RCW, our (ARRL Wisconsin Section) Official Observer Coordinator (OOC) was the program speaker for the evening. He provided valuable information as well as asked for volunteers to apply for such positions as Official Observer, Official Emergency Station, Technical Specialist etc. Several app's were issued for these appointments. Thanks, Rick, for your efforts and dedication.

*Respectfully submitted:
Kim Kunze N9SDL*

Mancorad Radio Club

Mary Langer, KB9GOY,
Secretary

P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI
54221-0204



2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

MEETING MINUTES March 11, 1998

Fred, W6BSF, our vice-president, called the meeting to order at 1935 hours. The meeting started with everyone introducing themselves.

The minutes for the February meeting were approved as published in the *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

The treasurer's report was approved as read by Glenn, AA9MT.

OLD BUSINESS

Fred, W6BSF, stated the club's vertical antenna was not working properly, so he and Red, N9GHE, are going to set it up and try to make necessary adjustments.

Down the road, our club will be looking for new headquarters. The city engineer approached Red, N9GHE, and asked if we would be interested in the old Historical Society building. They are moving into new quarters and it would be available. Another suggestion was the Red Cross building, but that would be rather small quarters. Red is checking out possibilities.

The club decided to table the code beacon classes that Kuby, N6JSX, had brought up at the last meeting until we find a new meeting place. Also tabled until then is the purchase of Red's Packet BBS for the club.

Our hamfest is fast approaching on May 9. If you haven't signed up to help, contact Glenn, AA9MT. There are several spots open yet. It is a lot of fun -- good people, good food, lots of prizes, many bargains, and besides that it is good for your club. There will be a meeting for the volunteers about a week before which will be announced. Glenn, AA9MT, will be bringing advance tickets to the next meeting.

If anyone is interested in organizing Field Day, contact Fred, W6BSF. Otherwise, Sheboygan has asked our club to join them in their Field Day.

NEW BUSINESS

Amateur Electronic Supply is having a Super Fest April 3 and 4. Fred, W6BSF, has gone the last few years and had a good time. They have seminars, door prizes, the latest equipment to look over, people on site for testing, and more.

The Sub event will be Saturday, August 15, 8 a.m. set up and operations from 9 until 3, depending on conditions. Please contact Fred, W6BSF, or Eric, AF9J. They would like to see some more hams participate, even if it is to log. Don't be mike-shy; join in the fun.

We received a letter from ARRL, approving our application to hold an

ARRL-approved hamfest on May 9.

Glenn, AA9MT, also received an e-mail from Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, which Fred, W6BSF, read to the club. It was in regard to Bills AB 680 and 754, which died in the Wisconsin Assembly. The gist of it was to fight for good legislation when it comes along to keep ham radio what it today.

John Meyer, NZ9Z, gave the club a little idea of what his DXpedition to the Republic of Palau (formerly Western Carolinas) will be like in December. John, NZ9Z; Dave, KJ9I; and Rudy, NF9V, will be operating RS12 satellite. Their call will be T88LL. It doesn't sound like they will be roughing it too much. Snorkeling and scuba diving should be very good there and John said he will have to get out his snorkel equipment and practice.

Fred, W6BSF, suggested a club, early fall picnic or possibly joining with Sheboygan in having a fryout at a park somewhere. Let him know if you would be interested in participating in such an activity.

It was brought up that there will be a banquet after the hamfest like we usually do. It seems some of the wives look forward to this event. Fred, W6BSF, will do some checking on this.

Bill, K9DUX, got a round of applause for his excellent job of running the Sunday morning net. It's not so bad, is it, Bill?

Ron, WS9X, stated that the T-hunt will be starting in a month or so when the weather warms up a little and we get rid of some of the mud. Listen to the nets for more information.

A motion was made to adjourn and the meeting closed at 2020 hours.

Lunch for all.

*Submitted for approval:
Mary Langer, KB9GOY, Secretary*

ATTENDANCE

Glenn	AA9MT
Fred	W6BSF
Mary	KB9GOY
Dick	N9QFY
Eric	AF9J
Erv	W9OMO
Don	KB9NTL
Bill	N9XEZ
Red	N9GHE
Dave	KB9KQA
Tom	KB9GRC
Ron	WS9X
Janice	N9IQZ
Kenneth	WB9OBX
John	NZ9Z
Ken	K9HAG
Bill	K9DUX
Paul	N9QFX

Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO
5400 Six Mile Road
Radne, WI 53402



Effective the 10th of March, Chapter 162's club call sign has been changed from KB9LUJ to K9AKG. The call, originally held by chapter member Olie Fox was obtained with the blessing of Olie's family and the opening of the FCC "gate" allowing us to apply for the call. Olie became a Silent Key on September 24, 1994. Our club now has 500 QSL cards with the call KB9LUJ; anybody need a few drink coasters?

Fern Fischer, W9LCJ, was in her basement doing a little "cleaning" when a piece of ham gear "jumped" in front of her as she tried walking past it. The resulting fall snapped her wrist in two places. My information source tells me it was Fern's

writing hand that is now immobilized and she has been having a devil of a time trying to write since. Another source by the name of Barb said something about a bag of cans that may have been involved. I really do not know; I guess we will all have to wait until Fern gives out the details.

On May 1st, the Racine Lutheran High School will hold its annual fund raising walk. QCWA has been asked to provide communication to insure the walk "runs" smoothly. I have enlisted the services of Spencer Clope, W9LDH; Fern Fisher, W9LCJ; Bill Komistra, W9OVZ; Ed

Continued on page 11

Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, President

2373 Willow Avenue • Medford WI 54451

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, April 2nd at 6:30 p.m. in the Emergency Government meeting room located in the basement of the sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Talk-in on the 147.15 Medford repeater (+600 kHz) or 146.52 MHz sim-

plex.

MEETING AGENDA/PROGRAM

PLEASE NOTE the earlier start time for the April club meeting!!! The program will consist of a presentation by a representative of the American Red Cross from

Continued on page 11

Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Continued from page 10

Wis. Rapids.

CLARK/TAYLOR COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES) NEWS

Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ
ARES Emergency Coordinator

• Don't forget to try to check into the weekly ARES net held Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. on the Medford repeater (147.75/147.15). If the repeater is down or not functioning properly, alternate frequencies, in order, are 147.15 MHz simplex and 146.52 MHz simplex. You're also encouraged to volunteer for net control duty for the net.

• Ken Smith, N9RRF, Granton, has designed an impressive little wind speed indicator for use by SKYWARN weather spotters, particularly mobile spotters. The device utilizes a magnetic mount base from a mobile antenna, allowing it to be mounted on the hood of the car where it can be easily viewed by the driver while in a stationary position. It incorporates a slightly modified bicycle computer to calculate the wind speed. Any Clark or Taylor County area hams interested in possibly obtaining one of these wind speed indicators should contact N9RRF for

details.

• I am interested in finding out if any hams located within Taylor County are able to access the 146.775 Granton, Wis. repeater, on a regular basis, from their home stations. If you can access this repeater as described above, please let N9GHZ know.

OTHER NEWS

• Elections for 1998 club officers were held at the March meeting of the Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club. The results are as follows: N9FSZ, President; AA9LE, Vice-President; and KA9WDX, Treasurer. Congratulations to all!

HOWEVER, please note that the club is still without an elected secretary!!! Please consider filling this position, and, if interested, attend an upcoming club meeting and make your intent known. NOTE: You do NOT need to have a computer or even a typewriter to hold this office! Alternatives are available! Contact N9GHZ for details. Basically, all the secretary needs to do is record the minutes of the monthly meetings, and then send a copy of them to *Badger State Smoke Signals* for publication.

• The next scheduled meetings of the Black River Wireless Assn. (BRWA) are 4/9/98 and 5/14/98, both Thursdays. The meetings start at 7:15 p.m., are open to all area Amateur Radio operators, and will be held at the American Legion Hall in Loy- al, Wis.

• An Amateur Radio Volunteer Examiner test session will be held in Medford on April 25th. For more details, see "The Test Point" column of this issue of *Badger State Smoke Signals*. □

QCWA/Chaper 162

Continued from page 10

Konicek, W9NVK; Herb Ladwig, W9PHJ; and Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO as communicators so far. I have three non club members willing to assist and I need a total of 11. We will be working from 7:30 a.m. until about 10 a.m. Seven hams will sit in their cars along the walk route assisting the walk checkers with their communication needs. Two Hams will ride the route with teachers to make sure everyone stays on course. One Ham will follow the last person and one will stay at the school to inform the walk's director of conditions with the walking students. The school appreciates our time and service and we fill a needed community service while enjoying the outing.

The Greater Southeastern Wisconsin Ham Banquet scheduled for March 28 has been postponed until September. The

Banquet committee's original facility went out of business. By the time a replacement was located, we missed our publicity opportunity. The September date will be locked in shortly and we will be publicizing the event. Your Awards Committee is still looking for nominations for the "Ham of the Year" and the "Olie Fox Award of Excellence". If you wish to nominate someone for either award, you must do so in writing. You may mail your nominations to: Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO at 5400 Six Mile Road, Racine, WI 53402.

Our Eleventh Anniversary celebration will be held on Sunday, April 19, 1998 at the Marriott Hotel Restaurant in Racine. The luncheon buffet will begin at 1pm and if I can get my act in gear, our history books will be available for your walk through history. Cards will be mailed about two weeks before the event with all the pertinent details. I hope to see all of you at this event. Until then!

73, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

The Racine Megacycle Club

Club Station W9UDU • Racine, WI
ARRL Affiliated

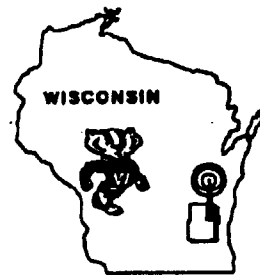
Providing Communications for American Red Cross and ARES

Mary Urban, N9ZWE, Secretary
c/o RMC • P. O. Box 3 • Racine, WI 53401-0003

The Racine Megacycle Club has changed procedures, first reading minutes at meetings and then submitting for publication. We look forward to their return next issue.

Well? Did you party?

If you joined the activity in the 1998 Wisconsin QSO Party, please send a photo or two of your operation to BSSS for publication. If you didn't have any taken during the event, you can "stage" a shot. Color prints are fine, with glossies preferred. Just be sure they are properly focused and that the exposure is right. You may send photos - and comments to go with them if you wish - to the editor, Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, 412 1/2 Ash Street, Baraboo, WI 53913-2501.



Washington County Amateur Radio Club

Tom Waldschmidt, N9LZW,
Secretary
465 Elder Lane
Allenton, WI 53002-9799



Club Repeater: 146.73 MHz

<http://www.nconnect.net/~WCARC>

MEETING MINUTES March 12, 1998

The March 12, 1998 meeting of the Washington County ARC was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Paul (Rip) Ripple, W9SIZ. Those attending were: Tom, N9LZW; Paul, N9KIK; Rip, W9SIZ; David, KA9RNU; Walt, N9LLS; Ed, AA9VS; Sherm, W9NGT; Gary, W9XT; Abe, KG9LO; Larry, WB9BVB; Bill, N9IBU; Brian, N9L00; Keith, KY9P; and Bob, AA9EF.

The minutes of the February 12th meeting were read by Secretary Tom, N9LZW. There was a motion by Sherm, W9NGT, seconded by Bill, N9IBU, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The financial report was read by Treasurer David, KA9RNU. There was a motion by Larry, WB9BVB, seconded by Ed, AA9VS, to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

Rip, W9SIZ, said that David has agreed to continue as treasurer for the club and that Paul, N9KIK, has offered to resume the responsibilities of Program Chairman for the club. Rip said that since David wasn't elected as treasurer, he would have to be reinstated to the position. There was a motion by Larry, WB9BVB, seconded by Gary, W9XT, to reinstate David, KA9RNU, as Treasurer. Motion carried.

There was a discussion about the club's representation at AES's Superfest, which will be held on Friday, April 3rd, and Saturday, April 4th. Several members indicated that they will help in staffing the club table. Ed, AA9VS, will prepare some handouts. David, KA9RNU, said he has membership applications available and Brian, N9L00, suggested a copy of the club's Web page which has informative information on it. Larry, WB9BVB, said he will see if we can get a phone line to use at Superfest. He would then set up his computer at Superfest so that direct access to the club's WEB site can be available.

Larry, WB9BVB, said that a representative from NCONNECT would be willing to attend a club meeting and put on a program. NCONNECT provides the club with a free Web page and several club members use NCONNECT as their ISP or Internet Service Provider.

ARES

Walt, N9LLS, reported that he attended a Skywarn meeting in Oconomowoc on February 21st. He said those at the meeting discussed various ideas. This year, reporting of significant events will be a little different. Severe weather reports will be made to the net control station on your local repeaters and then the net control station will relay those reports to the 145.130 repeater in the Milwaukee area. Washington County Amateur Radio operators should listen for a net on the club's repeater operating on frequency of 146.730.

On April 18th, the Pike Lake Friends will host the Second Annual Walk/Run at Pike Lake State Park located southeast of

Hartford. Volunteers will be needed to assist with communications for the event. Volunteers should meet in the parking lot of Goeman's Rapid Mart at 9:00 a.m. on that date.

Gary, W9XT, announced that the Wisconsin QSO Party will be held this Sunday from noon until 7 p.m.

Paul, N9KIK, distributed a handout that listed the programs for the following three months, but he announced a change in the program for the month of April. Dick Scarvaci, K9CAN, will present a program on computer monitors. The program schedule lists the Homebrew contest on May 14th and Field Day preparation on June 11th. The program originally scheduled for the April meeting was titled, "5 Questions About Your Ham Radio Interests". This program is expected to be moved to the July meeting. The 5 questions are: 1. How did you get into ham radio? 2. What kind of rig and antenna do you have? 3. What do you like to do in ham radio? 4. Any interesting or exciting experiences in ham radio? 5. Do you have any special QSL cards or certificates? Anyone having suggestions for programs may contact Paul Thyren, N9KIK at Email address ptwg05c@prodigy.com.

Sherm, W9NGT, reported that he has retired from the severe weather business and relinquished his position as an Assistant SEC.

There was a motion by Sherm, W9NGT, seconded by Bill, N9IBU, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:
Tom, N9LZW, Secretary

PROGRAM

Following the meeting, Gary, W9XT, gave a program on Digital Signal Processing technology (DSP). Everyone seemed to enjoy Gary's thorough description of DSP. Gary began by explaining the many uses for DSP. He then explained how DSP works and how its signal sampling characteristics vary depending upon the use.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 04/02/98 7:30 P.M. Net, 146.730 (PL 127.3 required)
- 04/03/98 2:00 P.M. AES Superfest (volunteers needed to staff club table)
- 04/04/98 8:30 A.M. AES Superfest (volunteers needed to staff club table)
- 04/04/98 9:00 A.M. Breakfast, Jimmy's in Jackson
- 04/05/98 Madison Swapfest (new location)
- 04/09/98 7:30 P.M. Club meeting, Washington County Courthouse, West Bend
- 04/11/98 9:00 A.M. Breakfast, Mineshaft in Hartford
- 04/16/98 7:30 P.M. Net, 146.730 (PL 127.3 required)
- 04/18/98 9:00 A.M. Breakfast, Jimmy's in Jackson
- 04/23/98 7:30 P.M. Net, 146.730 (PL 127.3 required)
- 04/25/98 9:00 A.M. Breakfast, Mineshaft in Hartford
- 04/30/98 7:30 P.M. Net, 146.730 (PL 127.3 required)

Oak Creek and the Bandit

Continued from front page

RF safety. This has been shown to several radio clubs in the Oak Creek area. He's now working on a companion project about aesthetics. This display will include a typical homeowner's garage and the area near it will include such items as old cars, overturned canoes, cars in stages of repair, and more, and the noises that accompany such activities. He will use this to compare its aesthetic appeal with a neat tower installation.

Verne can rightly boast that he won a liar's contest two years in a row; the

contest was held in conjunction with a hamfest in Lake Delton in the 1970s..

Then there is that "moniker" which was hung on him: "The Oak Creek Bandit". Here's how that came to be, and it isn't as mysterious as it sounds. His friends in the ORC began calling him that name because he always managed to get good prices for whatever he sold at the many swapfests he attended.

Les Peterson, W9YCV

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

Steve Hart, KA9OMC, Secretary

E616 810th Avenue

Knapp, WI 54749

2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

Greetings, RCRA members and guests.

It's time to report that another great auction has occurred, with 91 in attendance for the annual event in Eau Claire that was held on February 24.

Our thanks to KG9MK, Tim, and WB9RBP, Jim, for their help at the door and to all who helped and attended our fund raiser. Next year's auction is scheduled for February 23, 1999.

Skywarn classes are scheduled for April 14 in Eau Claire. Meeting time is 7 p.m. at the Labor Temple. Contact Jim at 715-838-9108 for more info.

KA9GNG, Bill, is looking for a power supply for an FT-200. Call Bill at 715-837-1618.

Did you work the Wisconsin QSO Party? W9AVM, Jim, and N9ZFY, Everett, went mobile and covered a lot of Northwestern counties.

KB9MMT, Jeff Wait at Menomonie, is working on the RCRA Web page and has had a few computer problems. Check in at:

<http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Haven/2443/>

Get well wishes to K9IAG, Ken at Menomonie, who has had a knee replaced and a bad cold.

KE9VA, Rolin at Boyceville, is training with a new seeing eye dog.

N9LRV, Gerald at Menomonie, recently attended the simulated air crash at Eau Claire.

K9RRU, Bob, and YL Bev, have returned from their trip to the southwest states.

The last social hour for the spring will be April 28 at 1414 9th Street, Menomonie, in the L-Mart Shopping Center's Peppermill Restaurant. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m.

Steve Hart, KA9OMC

1998 AUCTION TEAM

KITCHEN HELP

Judy Holtzman • Delores Wendt
Arlene Kraft • Heidi Holtzman
Terry Morgan

AUCTIONEER

Bruce Walther

AUCTIONEER'S ASSISTANTS

Jarad Walther • Ernie Wendt
Todd and Russell Holtzman

DOOR PRIZE AND VIDEO CAMERA

Rod Steele

QRZ AND ON AIR DIRECTIONS

Ed Van Sickle

FLOOR CLERKS

Scott Kilde • Jeff Cole
Jeff Wait • Steve Hart

DONATIONS

Rich's Surplus
Bushland Radio
WB9PMF • AA9UK • K0DL
WA9PAM • K9IAG • N9XGQ
KB9RQE • WD9IJV • W9GDW
WB9WKO
Rex Systems
W9QAH • W5MAZ • WB9RBP
Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club
and many others!

FCC SEQUENTIAL CALLSIGN UPDATE

The following is a list of FCC sequentially assigned call signs issued as of March 3, 1998.

Dist	Group A Extra	Group B Advanced	Group C Tech/Gen	Group D Novice
0	AB0HH	KI0LX	++	KC0CVG
1	AA1TI	KE1JH	++	KB1CLA
2	AB2EZ	KG2NS	++	KC2DBT
3	AA3QV	KF3AZ	++	KB3CEJ
4	AF4IN	KU4PG	++	KF4VZK
5	AC5PB	KM5PI	++	KD5DLN
6	AD6EP	KQ6UU	++	KF6PQR
7	AB7XM	KK7MK	++	KD7ATP
8	AB8BZ	KI8FE	++	KC8JJU
9	AA9VN	KG9MS	++	KB9SFL
N. Mariana Is	NH0C	AH0AY	KH0GV	WH0ABI
Guam	++	AH2DF	KH2TG	WH2ANV
Hawaii	NH7G	AH6PF	KH7IQ	WH6DEN
Am. Samoa	AH8P	AH8AH	KH8DL	WH8ABF
Alaska	AL0J	AL7RA	KL0NM	WL7CUR
Virgin Islands	++	KP2CN	NP2JZ	WP2AIJ

+ + All call signs in this group have been issued in this district.

The ARRL Letter, 3/13/98

Wisconsin Association of Repeaters



Mark Heimmermann, KF9CS, Secretary
1523 E. Moonbeam Tr. • Appleton, WI 54915

The Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters was held Saturday, March 14, 1998, in Green Bay, WI. Having previously announced that he would no longer accept the Chairman's position in the association, Nels Harvey, WA9JOB, stepped down after 14 years of active participation. Nels was the state's Frequency Coordinator for 9 years, and served as W.A.R.'s Chairman after George Loudon, N9CCI, retired and moved away.

In the years of Nels' involvement, W.A.R. joined the Mid-America Coordination Council, a consortium of 20 plus coordination entities, covering over half of the land. MACC helps focus the issues of frequency coordination, and gives the needed recognition of groups such as W.A.R. Wisconsin follows the coordination methods recommended by MACC, and W.A.R. is respected by fellow frequency coordination groups across the nation.

Nels helped bring the association into the computer age, following the lead of Dick Victor, WD9GRI, a former Chairman, who compiled reams of data into a data system using some, now, ancient technology. Nels was the first Wisconsin Frequency Coordinator to then use a computer for the tasks. Virtually all other coordination organizations now find computers and the Internet absolutely essential for coordination.

The new W.A.R. Chairman is Gary Bargholz, N9UUR. Gary is very active in AMSAT, and APRS as well as an Officer in the Milwaukee Repeater Club, that operates the Milwaukee 146.91 MHz. repeater. With all the other W.A.R. Officers being re-elected, it appears the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters will continue its long tradition of respect among fellow coordination groups as well as the support of the repeater operators in Wisconsin.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CENTRAL WISCONSIN RADIO AMATEURS, LTD.

At University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point



WB9QFW 2-Meter Repeater 146.07-.67 and Club Station

249 Georgia Street North • Stevens Point WI 54481-1040

MEETING MINUTES March 11, 1998

President Mike Pagel, K9UW, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. There was no program before this month's meeting.

A motion was made to accept the minutes from last month's meeting as printed in the *Badger State Smoke Signals*. Mike gave the treasurer's report and it was accepted as presented.

Mike reported that Paul Nelles, K9DB, sent us a letter to notify us that the Madison Swapfest is being held at the Middleton Convention Center (formerly the John Q. Hammons Convention Center).

The club received correspondence from *Worldradio* that they have a promotional package for clubs that costs \$65.00 a year. For that \$65.00, a club would get a copy of *Worldradio* sent to our newsletter editor every month. They send the club eight one-year *Worldradio* subscription certificates which can be used as prizes at a Swapfest or drawings at monthly meetings. They would also publish in their visit your local radio club listings, at no additional cost, the club's meeting times and places and who to contact. They would announce hamfest and/or swapfests every year. In addition to this, if any club mem-

bers buy *Worldradio* subscriptions, the club would get to keep a small portion of the subscription fee. A motion was made by John Feltz, W9JN, to go for the promotional package for clubs. Al Mallek, K9WVM, seconded. The motion was passed.

Mike announced that we received the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters newsletter and that it was available for anyone to read. He said that they now have a Web page. Bob Baird, W9NN, asked Mike if we were going to send in WB9QFW's renewal. Mike will take care of WB9QFW and Bob will take care of the renewal for the W9NN repeater.

The club has sold the Kenwood 430 that it owns and is looking to replace it. Al Mallek, K9WVM, will head up the committee looking into purchasing a new radio, as he is Field Day Chairperson for this year. Mike asked Al to make his recommendation on a replacement radio by no later than the May meeting.

A motion was passed to authorize the purchase of a 35 amp power supply with a meter for the club at the most reasonable price. It will be put in the club station and the one in the club station will go out to the .67 site.

Continued on page 13



E.C.A.R.C.
eau Claire
amateur radio club

Burch Kelly, KB9RBN, Secretary
P.O. Box 1867 • Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867
146.91 • KB9RRA • 147.24 • <http://www.ecarc.org>

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 9, 1998

7:30 p.m., 1:30 a.m. UTC

Eau Claire Parks and Recreation
Building

Tim, KG9MK, opened the meeting. Burch, KB9RBN, synopsized the January minutes. They were approved as read.

Jim, KG9MV, discussed the current ECARC financial statement. ECARC has two new members and more new members are likely to join soon as a result of mission Eau Claire.

NEW BUSINESS

Tim, KG9MK, suggested that experienced hams help and encourage the newly graduated hams when they get on the 2 meter bands. This could be done through discussion of topics that the kids would relate to including homework, hobbies, sports, etc. Perhaps these hams could be steered to the 147.240 repeater. Get them to use 146.55, 146.58, 146.52 simplex frequencies. Another goal is to develop a kids directory of hams. A kid's net could be developed and supported (after school, or Saturday night or some other time). A pizza party could be scheduled. Activities should be considered to encourage the kids to participate with Amateur Radio or the club. Ideas are welcome as are volunteers for these activities.

Hamfest: update by Jim, KG9MV: Posters and flyers are printed and being distributed. Letters to vendors have gone out. The space shuttle is scheduled to go to

the hamfest and field day. The flyer will be on the ECARC homepage as a html file.

Jim, KG9MV, discussed the newsletter "Feedline". Additional sections could be added to the newsletter, such as events, newsline articles, "items for sale", or "featured ham for the month", latest propagation reports. Jim, KG9MV, stated that the newsletter, with perhaps another name as approved by members, would be turned out monthly until the end of the year. The club could have a contest to name the newsletter.

It was noted that all contributions or changes to the ECARC webpage should be through Jim, KG9MV.

John Elliot, the Division Chair for the area Red Cross Chapter presented information about himself and the Red Cross before he was paged on his beeper. John is currently waiting for his call sign. His position is supported by Dunn, Eau Claire, Chippewa, Buffalo, Pepin, and Trempealeau counties. Red Cross is chartered by Congress to respond with aid and assistance to disasters throughout the country. It largely made up of volunteers. Activities include providing support to victims of fires, floods and other disasters. The Red Cross provides safety training to the community.

Jim, KG9MV, noted that Red Cross needs the assistance of hams for communications for drills and disasters especially when the cell phone and public safety systems become overloaded or fail.

Jim, KG9MV, stated that Pam McInnis

Continued on page 13

Watts Snoo

Continued from page 12

John Feltz, W9JN, Swapfest Chairperson updated the club on how things are progressing for the upcoming Swapfest in June. John is continuing to work on additional advertising. John said that he would like to see us have a ham prize this year. He will report back to the club what he thinks might make a good ham prize and the cost of the choices he presents. Mike reported that Scott Jasper has purchased several prizes for the raffle.

Jerry Fadness, W9GF, has accepted the position of Emergency Coordinator for Portage County. Jerry announced the following positions.

Net Control:

John Feltz, W9JN
Scott Jasper, NE9U
Al Mallek, K9WVM

Base Station Operator:
Mark Nemzoff, N9ICY

Jerry, W9GF, and Art Wysocki, N9-BCA, will be working with Sandy from the Emergency Government.

The Portage County ARES Net resumes on Monday, March 16 at 8 p.m. on the 146.985 repeater.

Mary Eiden, KA9FAS, asked Jerry to talk with Sandy about the possibility of having her do a program for an upcoming meeting.

Mary Eiden, KA9FAS, reported that the club's Web page has been updated. We now have the officers listed on it and those that have e-mail addresses have their ad-

resses next to their name so that if anyone wants to contact those officers, they can. Mary also updated the Swapfest Flyer that is on-line, and has links from the main page as well as the activities page. She also said that we now have a counter on our page so that we know how many people are visiting our site.

Mary said that she got a suggestion from John Feltz, W9JN, that we have club members, who are interested, take a picture of their club station and have it placed on our Web site. Mary said that she would be willing to scan the pictures and that she is in no danger of going over her limit in terms of the size of what she can have on her Web site. Mary said that she felt that changing pictures from time to time would be a good idea in order to keep our site fresh and to keep people coming back. She said that our site is listed in the *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

A motion was made to adjourn.

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Club Station in the George Stein Building.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Eiden, KA9FAS

Filling in for Secretary Al Mallek,
N9WBS

ATTENDANCE

Mike Pagel	KA9LAQ
Mary Eiden	KA9FAS
Jan Rydberg	KB9RUJ
Mike Eiden	WD9JID
Jerry Fadness	W9GF
John Feltz	W9JN
Al Mallek	K9WVM
Mark Nemzoff	N9ICY
Bob Baird	W9NN

Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club

Continued from page 12

thanks the members for the help in the siren tests. We need to be prepared to report in during the next siren tests on April 1st, 11 a.m. Members should then report in on the .91 repeater. Pam will be at the Skywarn training.

Field Day Progress report: The Carson Park Prine Pavillion site is secured. It has rest rooms and plug outlets (for coffee pots). We have equipment and people lined up for all of the bands. We still need CW operators. We will have sign up sheets for additional help and operators for various shifts. We need assistance for logging. We still need equipment, generators and tents. Picnic will be at 6 p.m., and bring a dish. The shuttle will be there. Tim, KG9MK, asked if the Field Day rules are available. Bruce said they will be made available.

Jim, KG9MV, briefly described the incident command system used during disaster drills, by police, hospitals.

Nolene, N9MNA, thanked all that came to the Christmas party. She also requested discussion of the party and the purchase of gifts to be given out to the members. A discussion ensued. The motion was seconded and approved by the members with two votes opposed.

Gale WD9HFT:

1. Discussed the upgrades he put into the .240 repeater including what the upgrade will do.

2. In the WAR quarterly, it was noted

that 5 of 7 decoordinated repeaters lost their commercial sites.

3. Where is the proposed Wisconsin law prohibiting communication on a cell phone or radio while driving a vehicle? It was stated that this law was thought to be dead although it might come back.

Tim, KG9MK, thanked Gale for all the assistance and work he performed for the club. The members applauded his efforts.

KB9R installed the outgoing tone on the .910 repeater. Incoming tone may have to be set sometimes during the summer if conditions warrant it.

Please set your radios to TX 110.9 as so you will be able to access the repeater in the future.

Tim, KG9MK, thanked the VEs for the testing and the trainers including those providing the Morse code training.

A member brought up the question about changing the name of the club to encompass the entire area. Tim, KG9MK, and Jim, KG9MV, will look into the requirements including the bylaws, constitution.

Troy, KB9AZZ, presented an opportunity to the club for making money. He will get more facts for the next meeting.

Skywarn training is scheduled for Tuesday April 14, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Labor Temple.

On April 13th, the ARRL 2 meter Sprint is scheduled from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. (4 > hours).

The lunch committee volunteers for the next meeting is: Jim, KG9MV.

Meeting was adjourned.

Burch Kelly, KB9RBN, Secretary

More new Section Managers

Four ARRL sections will have new section managers beginning July 1, 1998. In Alaska, David Stevens, KL7EB, of Anchorage, will replace Russell Ely, WL7LP; in Maine, William Woodhead, N1KAT, of Auburn, will replace Michelle Mann, W1GU; in Oregon, William Sawders, K7ZM, of Bend will succeed Randy Stimson, KZ7T; and in Santa Clara Valley, Geoffrey Ellis, KD6MFM, of Santa Cruz will succeed Kit Blanke, WA6PWW. In all four sections, the incumbents declined to run for another term, and the successful candidates ran unopposed.

In seven other ARRL sections, incumbents ran unopposed for re-election. They include Scott Johnson, N4YYQ, in Alabama; Bruce Boston, KD9UL, in Illinois; Peggy Coulter, W9JUI, in Indiana; Orlan Cook, W00YH, in Kansas; Rudy Hubbard, WA4PUP, in Northern Florida; Bernie Capron, N1NDN, in Vermont; and Roy Pedersen, K9FHI, in Wisconsin.

The ARRL Letter, 3/13/98



SHEBOYGAN County Amateur Radio Club

Mike Musiel, KF9SJ, Secretary
N9001 Dairyland Dr., Cleveland WI 53015

MEETING MINUTES March 1998

The March meeting of the Sheboygan County Amateur Radio Club was called to order by Kurt, N9ZMO. The SCARC meets every second Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross building, 2032 Erie Ave. in Sheboygan at 7 p.m.

Lyle, WE9R, the recipient of the 1997 Ham Of The Year award (HOTY), presented the HOTY award to Art, K9XJ. Art has given a great deal of his time to the Sheboygan ham community, recently providing DX reports at the club meetings, and heading the local VE testing team. Whether lending a hand at Field Day, a public service event, or acting as a Elmer to a new ham, Art puts 100 percent effort into any project he takes on. Congratulations, Art, the SCARC is proud to have you in its membership.

In club business, the membership moved, and unanimously approved a motion in support of the local Red Cross fund raising effort. The Red Cross has been a great resource to the club over the years, providing a meeting place for the SCARC, and space for the club station. If you are a Sheboygan county ham, please consider making a contribution to the Red Cross, whether you do it in the name of the SCARC, or not. This is a great opportunity to thank them for their support of ham radio in Sheboygan County.

A motion was also made by AC9A and unanimously approved by members present, in support of Sheboygan County ARES. The motion included ARES use of the SCARC 147.060 repeater, at the discretion of ARES. This will mean that ARES VHF county wide activities will be moving to 147.060. Please be aware of these activities, and cooperate with the net control station.

This is a good opportunity to remind club members of the courtesy beep codes used on 147.060. The standard two tone beep indicates that the repeater is in nor-

mal "open" mode, and available for normal amateur use. The "I" courtesy tone (double beep), indicates that a watch situation is in progress, and that the repeater is open for normal amateur use, but please keep the pauses between transmissions long enough for priority traffic to interrupt. (Something you should always do, anyway.) A "W" or "N" courtesy beep indicates that a net is in progress. Communication should be through permission of net control only.

There have been many complaints to the SCARC board lately about operating practices on the club repeater. It is up to all of us to set a good example of proper operating techniques. Many operators do not leave pauses between their transmissions on the repeater, and ignore net control. This does not set a good example to the new hams in the county, or for the SWL scanners and potential new hams out there.

The program for the April meeting was not final as of press time, but the construction segment, presented at the end of the meeting will focus on finishing up the Baycom TNC project.

Net Schedules

7 p.m. Monday Nights, SCARC Fun Net, 147.06 PL 107.2, +.

Traders Net - Following the Monday night net on the first Monday of the month.

6:30 p.m. Thursday Nights, ARES Net, 147.255 PL 127.3, +, 444.175 PL 107.2 +.

10 net on 28.350 USB. Meets at 7:30 p.m., following the Monday night 2 meter net.

Respectfully submitted:
Michael J. Musiel, KF9SJ

IS BSSS LOOKING A BIT "GENERIC" LATELY? Yup. That's due to a defective "Input/Output" port. We depend heavily on readers' contributions of stories (originals, hopefully) and photos. And since there has been nearly no "Input", there's no "Output" either. Lots of hams do interesting things all the time, lots of it very newsworthy. But we don't have a huge staff - we have two people. So, please consider providing some "I". We'll then have a lot more and better "O".

26th Annual MADISON SWAPFEST & COMPUTER FAIR

Sponsored by the Madison Area Repeater Association - W9HSY - Madison, WI

JOHN Q. HAMMONS TRADE CENTER

Doors Open at 8 A.M. - Sunday, April 5, 1998

Booth Exhibitors & Flea Market sellers with 6 or more tables admitted at 1A.M. All other sellers at 6A.M.

ADMISSION PER PERSON - \$5.00 ADVANCE / \$6.00 DOOR (Children 10 & under Free)

6 FT. TABLES - \$15.00 ADVANCE (Price does not include admission. You must buy separate admission ticket.)

For information on Exhibitor Booths, Contact MARA, Box 8890, Madison, WI 53708-8890

(608) 245-8890 - Answering Machine, 24 Hours/Day

Visit the MARA Swapfest web site at: <http://www.cs.wisc.edu/~jeremyc/mara/swapfest/>

NEW MADISON SWAPFEST LOCATION

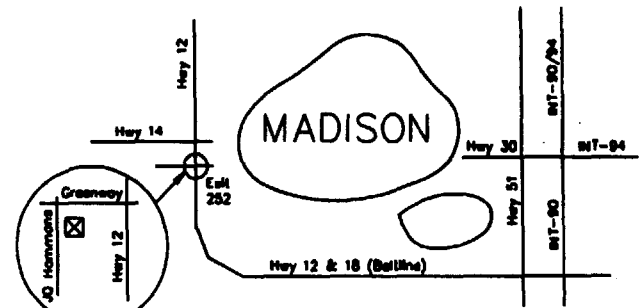
THE JOHN Q. HAMMONS TRADE CENTER, 1313 J.Q. HAMMONS DRIVE, MIDDLETON

Located next to the Marriott (Formerly the Holiday Inn- West)

** TALK-IN ON THE 147.15 REPEATER **

Rooms are available for Saturday night at the Fairfield Inn across the road. Call 608-831-1400. Ask for "MARA swapfest".

☉ FREE ☉
PARKING



Located about 15 miles west of the Hwys 12&18 and the I-90 interchange. On Hwy 12 in Middleton, take the Greenway Blvd exit #252. Head west and take the first left onto J.Q. Hammons Drive.

ADVANCE RESERVATION COUPON

NAME _____ CALL SIGN _____

COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE () _____ SOCIAL SECURITY OR SELLERS PERMIT NO _____

PLEASE SEND _____ TICKETS AT \$6.00 PER PERSON (Required by the State of WI)

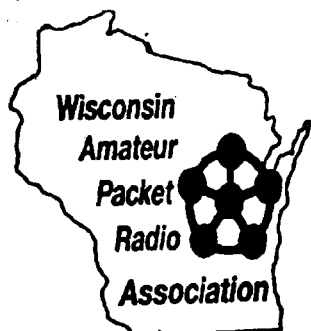
PLEASE RESERVE _____ 6 FT. TABLES AT \$15.00 EACH - Table Fee Does NOT include Admission Fee.

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____ (A.C. outlets available to Booth Exhibitors ONLY.)

If there are no tables available, do you still wish to purchase tickets? YES () NO ()

Make Checks Payable to MARA - Mail to MARA, Box 8890, Madison, WI 53708-8890

Ticket and Table Reservations Confirmed by Return Mail. RESERVATIONS NOT ACCEPTED AFTER MARCH 28, 1998



THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association
Bob Gedemer, KA9JAC
609 Wilson Street • Neenah, WI 54956

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor • 720 N. Broadway (Upper West) • Green Bay, WI 54303

WAPR News - March 1998

Happy April Fools! I will not carry on the role of the prankster this month. Not for lack of desire, but for lack of time. So what you will see here in this column is for real! Imagine that!

There is news of all sorts in the packet community. Last month I mentioned that Steve, KE9LZ has resigned the position of Frequency Coordinator for WAPR. A replacement has been found in the person of Walt Altus, AA9AW. We thank Steve for his good service to WAPR, and thank Walt for taking the time to volunteer. And we all wish you the best of luck in the job.

If you need to contact Walt, you can reach him via packet at: AA9AW@AA9AW.EN43KM.WI.USA.NA. Via internet at: waltus@centuryinter.net.

Speaking of new appointments, I erred on Ron Nelson, N9CFN's E-Mail address. If you need to contact Ron for IP Addresses, contact him at n9cfn@juno.com. Mail sent to the address I printed last month will get to him, but he would prefer that you mail him directly at the above address.

As you know, both Ron and I both live in Green Bay. On the 14th of March, the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters meeting was held in Green Bay, and Ron and I both attended. While there was very little to talk about in the way of packet (this was not a packet meeting), it was interesting to hear what has been going on in the state as of late concerning the number one users of the VHF Band - repeater users. I also represented our local ham radio club (the N.E.W. Radio League) and needed to connect with WAR for that reason.

One thing is sure - commercial radio not only has been looking for more spectrum, but has also been gobbling up a lot of tower space. Mention was made that several voice repeaters were displaced from tower sites because of new commercial radio installations. Node operators have always faced the same kinds of challenges and we are indeed fortunate to have what we have. Let's all cross our fingers and hope that this trend moderates (it will probably continue as the growth of the PCS and cellular infrastructures continues).

One of our long-time friends is very active in WAR these days, Dan Bolander, WB9TYT. You may remember that Dan operated a node stack in the Milwaukee area for quite a while. Dan has taken on the job of W.A.R. frequency coordinator (not WAPR frequency coordinator). These days, he is wintering in Florida and is doing quite a capable job of coordinating Wisconsin repeaters via E-Mail. We all wish him well and I hope to bump into him on the air when he does return for the summer.

Another ham who is well-known for his work in and out of WAR is Nels Harvey, WA9JOB. He has chosen not to run for another term as WAR Chair. I have known Nels since I first was involved in our local club and dealing with our club's repeater issues. Nels has always been fair and helpful in dealing with everybody (WAPR included) and I'm sure you will join me in thanking him for doing a great job with WAR in his years with that organization.

WAR is the official VHF coordinating body here in Wisconsin, and WAPR operates in cooperation with WAR. WAR also is a member of the Mid-America Coordination Council, a regional frequency coordination body.

There are other special purpose packet coordinators in Wisconsin, notably the ARES packet coordinator, N9QIP. As there are frequencies set aside for ARES use, the job of the ARES coordinator is more of ARES network management rather than frequency coordination. ARES frequency usage was set up a long time ago and does not seem to be in dispute or need any changing as of right now.

In other news, there has been somewhat of a disruption in the BBS mail system here in the northeastern part of the state. We lost a feed from the south and had to find another path. Currently, we obtain a feed from Indiana through KB9BYQ's internet gateway. This has been a great fall-back to radio forwarding, and hope to once again restore our radio links to the south and west. If you have been wondering why you could not get packet mail to the northeastern part of the state, this is the reason. Even when all of the kinks are straightened out with our forwarding, messages may take longer to get up here due to having to take the "long path" through other forwarding partners, who may be out of state. By the time you read this, most of the minor kinks will be ironed out and things should be operating smoother. But be forewarned - mail will take longer to get here and get from here.

That is all the news I have for this month. Remember, I am always looking for packet news to share in this column. If you have news items that others may find interesting, please mail them to me through the post office, packet, or internet.

Until next time, 73 from Andy.

Using the Wisconsin Network - Part 38

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

The last two parts of our series have found us exploring the Internet Gateway. We will conclude with a catch-up of miscellaneous topics in a "Q&A" format.

Q - I saw in part 37 of this series that one can send binary files if they are encoded. However, the sysop of the gateway I use frowns on this practice. Why?

A - The reason is that he does not want to spend his time trying to decode and view every encoded message that goes through his system. The same rules regarding regular packet mail forwarding apply to the internet when Amateur Radio is involved. The originator of the message, as well as the first forwarding station are legally responsible for the content of the message. Therefore, a good gateway operator will want to keep a close eye on things, it is his license on the line. Obviously, you are using the gateway at the pleasure of the Sysop, so it is reasonable for him to limit encoding mail messages - it does take a lot of time to make sure their content is legal.

Q - What should I do if I get SPAM mail at a gateway?

A - If you are in the process of reading it, stop immediately. If you must do a hard disconnect, so be it. Don't kill the message yet! Then contact the gateway Sysop and inform him or her of the situation. The Sysop will probably want to look at the message to see if the point of origin can be determined. If this can be done, a Sysop can generally set a trap for that originator and block out future mail delivery attempts from that internet host.

Q - I have been trying to mail a friend of mine, and every time I try, the gateway says "Bad host" and won't let me leave a message. What is happening here?

A - Chances are, you have something wrong with the way you typed the address. E-mail addresses are structured like this:

username@computername.networkname.domain.optional-country-code.

The username is your friend's internet mail name. The optional computername is followed by a network name, then the domain. Valid domains are org, net, com, gov, and mil. If your friend has an internet provider in a country other than

the US, you will probably see a country code in it.

Internet addresses are in most cases entirely lower case. Occasionally you will see a username in Capital letters. If this is the case, then type ONLY that portion in capital letters. Pay special attention to the rest of the address - That is what the gateway says is wrong with the address.

What it is saying is "There appears to be no such computer known by that name on the internet". So you need to triple check the address, and correct it.

Q - I sent a message to a friend and got another message later titled "Failed Mail" from "Delivery Subs". I did not ask to have subs delivered, what is this?

A - Nobody called up a sub shop as a prank - this is a message from the mail delivery subsystem telling you that your message was refused by the destination computer. The most frequent reason is an incorrect user name in the To: address. Another reason could be that the destination computer was not able to be reached. It may be because of a network failure, or the destination computer was temporarily off-line. Included in the message will be a notice that the mail system keep trying for 3 to 5 days. If this is the case, wait and see if you get another message telling you it had failed and was deleted. If you do not get this message, then you should try mailing again. Hint: If you get one of these messages, save it to a file on your computer. That way, if it fails completely, you can re-edit it and upload it later in another message. That is, if you do find out where the problem is.

Q - What is an AXIP link? What do I have to do to use it?

A - AXIP is a way to send the AX.25 protocol that we all use over the internet. An AXIP link will operate as though you are in direct communication with another AX.25 station. This allows network nodes to function over the internet in the same manner that they operate on radio.

While not particularly efficient, it does work and provides a lot of AX.25 users with an easy way to access remote Net/Rom nodes over the internet. If you connect up to a gateway and connect to a remote node, you are using an AXIP link. There is nothing special to do, an AXIP link generally appears transparent to the user. If you know how to use a regular networked node through the internet, you know what to do. If you have not ever used a node, check out the first few parts of this series to familiarize yourself with one.

That's all we have space for this time. Until next time, 73 from Andy

WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____ CALL: _____ HOME PHONE: (____) _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME BBS: _____ FREQ: _____ (Listing your home BBS is important)
Your HOME BBS should be a full service BBS, not your TNC's mailbox.

MY PACKET STATION OPERATES: _____ DAY _____ NIGHT _____ 24HRS

I OPERATE A: _____ DIGIPEATER WITH ALIAS OF: _____

_____ FULL SERVICE BBS

PRIMARY PACKET INTEREST/EXPERTISE IS: _____

_____ YES I want to receive Badger State Smoke Signals and I understand that part of my dues goes to pay this subscription, cost \$20.00

_____ NO I do not wish to receive Badger State Smoke Signals as a part of my WAPR membership. Cost \$15.00

COMPLETE and return this form with your check or money order - \$15.00 membership only or \$20.00 membership and Badger State Smoke Signals, made payable to W.A.P.R. (NOT payable to Bob Gedemer) to:

Bob Gedemer KA9JAC/WAPR
609 Wilson St.
Neenah, WI. 54956-3129

THE TEST POINT

(continued from page 3)

HAYWARD, WI - HAYWARD HAMFEST
KAUKAUNA, WI - SWAPFEST
MANITOWOC, WI - LAKESHORE HAMFEST
MARSHFIELD, WI - HAMFEST
OAK CREEK, WI - SMARC HAMFEST
RACINE, WI - RACINE HAMFEST
RHINELANDER, WI - NWARC SWAPFEST
ROCKFORD, IL - RARC HAMFEST
ROTHSCHILD, WI - WVRA HAMFEST
SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WI
SMARC HAMFEST
STEVENS POINT, WI - CWRA SWAPFEST
WAUKESHA, WI - KMRA SWAPFEST
WAUKESHA, WI
MIDWINTER SWAPFEST
DUBUQUE, IA - HAMFEST

See the Swapfest column for additional information and contact persons.

DUBUQUE, IA - ARRL/VEC
Dubuque Hamfest. Contact: Carl Clark, NOKAX, 2145 Delicia Drive, Dubuque, IA 52001. (319) 557-9149.

LOVESPARK, IL
Third Saturday of every month. Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. Contact: Dennis G. Eksten, W9SS, (815) 877-6768.

MINNESOTA TEST INFORMATION
From "The Ground Wave", Saint Paul Radio Club.

Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC)
Contact: Ed VanCleave, W0VC, (612) 636-0108
Test Site: St. Paul Technical College
235 Marshall Ave.
St Paul, MN
TESTING: First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m.

Anoka Amateur Radio Club (AARC)
Contact: Joe Wivoda, N0AU, (612) 753-6481
Test Site: Blaine City Hall
9150 Central Ave NE
Blaine, MN
TESTING: Second Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

Bloomington Office of Emergency Management
(Bloomington Amateur Radio Club (BARC))
Contact: Dan Royer, KE0OR (612) 888-9756
Test Site: Creekside Community Center
98th & Penn Avenue S
Bloomington, MN
TESTING: Fourth Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

Valley Amateur Radio Club (VARC)
Contact: Bill Martin, A10D (612) 432-0438
Test Site: Hayes Community Center
14601 Hayes Road
Apple Valley, MN
TESTING: Second Thursday of the month 7:00 p.m.

W5YI Group
Contact: Dave Ranney, N0AXL (612) 542-2553
Test Site: Eden Prairie Library
479 Eden Prairie Drive
Eden Prairie, MN
TESTING: Third Tuesday of the month 6:30 p.m.

SE Metro Area Radio Club (SEMARC)
Contact: Dave Harrell, N0IPN (612) 459-8678 Test Site:
Cottage Grove fire Station
8641 80th ST. S
Cottage Grove, MN
TESTING: Third Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

The times and places listed above are the usual time and place for each VE team. Occasionally, sessions are canceled or changed. It is a good idea to call ahead to confirm the test time and place



Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)

Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary
450 West 2nd Street • Reedsburg, WI 53959



The March 17, 1998 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was cancelled due to weather and rescheduled for Wednesday, March 25, 1998 at Klinkner Electronics in Prairie Du Sac. Steve Schulze, N9UDO had heard that three members showed up for the March 17th meeting and that there were three prospective hams as well.

The April meeting will be held Tuesday April 21 at 7:30 p.m. in room 14 in the Baraboo Civic Center.

Sincerely,
Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ
club secretary



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FOR SALE: Fujitsu laptop computer, 120 MHz, Pentium, 850 MB HD, 16 MB RAM, Windows 95, internal battery, external power supply, 1 Gig external SPARQ drive, DC ROM and floppy drives, bright active matrix screen & soft carry case. \$1350.00. For more info contact: kb9ivp@execpc.com or (414) 567-2633 Oconomowoc.

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Sunday, June 7, 1998

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Junction City is 12 miles west of Stevens Point, Wisconsin, on U.S. 10

Tables: \$4.00 each IF tables are requested before May 15. After May 15, tables are \$7.00 plus admission.

Admission: \$3.00 (free for children under 12.)

A limited number of electrical hookups are available (free of charge) and are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors will be open to the public at 8 a.m. (6:30 a.m. to vendors choosing Sunday morning setup), with shutdown by 1:30 p.m.

Tailgaters are encouraged to sell their unsold goods at our AUCTION at noon.

For more information, please call, write, or e-mail:
John Feltz, W9JN, 973 E. First Street, Junction City, WI 54443-9814
Phone: (715) 457-2506 • E-mail: jfw9jn@tznnet.com



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P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890
Swapfest Information Line: (608) 245-8890

SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SWAPFEST 98

July 11, 1998

(Held every July)

American Legion Park

Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI

(414) 762-3235
P. O. Box 102

Extension 58
South Milwaukee, WI 53172

FOX CITIES HAMFEST Sunday, November 8, 1998

Starlite Club, Hwy. 55 north of Kaukauna

HAMFEST INFO: Chad Pennings, N9PRC

1912 Russett Ct., Apt. 7 • Appleton WI 54914 •
(920) 993-0485

EXAM INFO: Larry Siebers, KD9IA • (920) 759-1167
HTTP://W9ZL.AMPR.ORG

Lakeshore Hamfest and Computer Swapfest Manitowoc County Expo

Intersection of Hwys. 42-151 and I-43 on Cty. Hwy. R
Saturday, May 9, 1998

For more information, call:

Glenn, AA9MT: 920-684-7096
Red, N9GHE: 920-684-9097

ManCoRad Radio Club • P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

TRI-COUNTY ARC PRESENTS HAMFEST 1998

YOUR SPRING FAVORITE!

Sunday, March 15, 1998

Jefferson County Fairgrounds

TCARC • 213 Frederick Street
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

414-563-6381
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Information: Call, write, or email John Feltz, W9JN
973 E. 1st St., Junction City WI 54443-9614 • (715) 457-2506
E-MAIL: jfw9jn@tzn.net.com

Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club HAMFEST

Saturday, July 11, 1998

Eau Claire County Exposition Center

Doors Open at 8:00 AM

For Information Contact:

Jim Staatz 715-838-9108 wb9rbp.aol.com
P.O. Box 1867 Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867
http://www.ecarc.org

RACINE AMATEUR RADIO AND COMPUTER SHOW Sunday, July 26, 1998

8 A.M. - 2 P.M.

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Ozaukee Radio Club 20TH ANNUAL RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST Saturday, May 2, 1998

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center
Intersection of Highway 60 and County I
Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,
5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222
Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club
W58 N985 Essex Drive, Cedarburg, WI 53012-1439

Circus City Swapfest

Sponsored by The Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

Saturday August 8, 1998 • 7 a.m. - noon
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Steve Schulze, N9UDO
(808) 356-2313/356-4777
http://www.thelox.com/~sschulze/hamfest.htm

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX
(608) 643-6908/643-6453

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

AUCTION

February 23, 1999 • 7:00 p.m.

American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street
Eau Claire, WI

CONTACT:

Steve Hart, KA9OMC
E616 810th Ave.

715-665-2374
Knapp, WI 54749

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